

**FILE DESCRIPTION**

**BUREAU FILE**

**SUBJECT Thomas Black**

**FILE NO. 65-59181**

**SECTION NO. 2**

**SERIALS 26**

**THRU**

**75**

## **NOTICE**

**THE BEST COPIES OBTAINABLE ARE INCLUDED IN THE REPRODUCTION OF THE FILE. PAGES INCLUDED THAT ARE BLURRED, LIGHT OR OTHERWISE DIFFICULT TO READ ARE THE RESULT OF THE CONDITION AND OR COLOR OF THE ORIGINALS PROVIDED. THESE ARE THE BEST COPIES AVAILABLE.**

File No: 65-59181Re: THOMAS BLACKDate: 1/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
26	6.5.50	NK TELETYPE TO HQ, NY, PH	1	1	
27	6.5.50	PH TELETYPE TO HQ, NY, NK	1	1	
28	6.4.50	NK TELETYPE TO HQ, NY, PH	1	1	
29	6.4.50	NK TELETYPE TO HQ, NY, PH	1	1	
30	6.4.50	BALT TELETYPE TO HQ, WA, PH, NK, NY	1	1	
31	6.3.50	PH TELETYPE TO HQ, WA, NK, NY, BALT	1	1	
NR	6.19.50	SEARCH SLIPS	6	6	
32	6.2.50	PH TELETYPE TO HQ, NY, NK, BA	3	3	
33	6.2.50	NK TELETYPE TO HQ, NY, PH, BA	3	3	
34	6.2.50	SA MEMO TO BELMONT	1	1	
35	6.20.50	HQ TELETYPE TO PH, NY	2	2	
36	6.6.50	PH TELETYPE TO HQ, WA, NY	1	1	
37	6.21.50	SA MEMO TO HQ	1	1	

File No: 65-59181Re: THOMAS BLACKDate: 1/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
38	6-12-50	PH TELETYPE TO HQ, WA, NY, NK,	2	2	
38	6-22-50	W/1 SEARCH SLIP HQ LETTER TO PH	2	2	
39	6-2-50	PH TELETYPE TO HQ, WA, NK, NY	2	2	
40	6-21-50	REPORT from BU TO HQ	5	3	
41	6-21-50	LETTER from HQ TO SAC, PH	1	1	
42	6-19-50	LETTER from HQ TO AG-	1	1	
NR	6-19-50	NY TELETYPE TO HQ & PH (CAP: 320) 291/9-16-77	2	2	
43	6-4-50	PH TELETYPE TO HQ, <del>NY</del> , NY, NK	1	1	
44	7-18-50	65-59181-44 CHANGED TO NO-365040-180	1	1	
45	6-4-50	PH TELETYPE TO HQ, NY, NK,	2	2	
46	6-3-50	PH TELETYPE TO HQ, WA, NY, NK	4	-	BUFILE # 65-57449-✓
47	6-10-50	PH TELETYPE TO HQ, WA, NY, NK.	1	1	
48	6-11-50	NK TELETYPE TO HQ, WA, NY, PA.	1	1	



File No: 65-59181Re: THOMAS BLACKDate: 1/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
49	6-11-50	NK TELETYPE TO HQ, WA, NY, PH	1	1	
50	6-12-50	NK TELETYPE TO HQ, WA, NY, PH.	1	1	
51	6-12-50	LETTER FROM HENNRICH TO BELMONT	1	1	
NR	6-13-50	LETTER FROM BELMONT TO LADD	5	—	BUFILE # 65-57449-411
NR	5-31-50	REPORT FROM NK TO HQ	8	—	BUFILE # 65-57449-485
NR	6-23-50	REPORT FROM NK TO HQ	1	—	BUFILE # 65-57449-435
52	6-14-50	PH TELETYPE TO HQ, WA, NY,	1	1	
53	6-7-50	PH TELETYPE TO HQ, WA, WFO	1	1	
54	6-8-50	NY TELETYPE TO HQ, WA, PH, NK.	1	1	
55	6-26-50	HQ TELETYPE TO PH.	1	1	
56	6-15-50	LETTER FROM BELMONT TO LADD	2	2	
56	6-16-50	HQ LETTER TO AG.	5	5	

CRS panFile No: 65-59181Re: THOMAS BLACKDate: 1/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
57	6-20-50	LETTER FROM ASS'TAG TO HQ	3	-	REFERRED TO DOJ
57	6-26-50	LETTER FROM HQ, TO ASST. A.G.	3	3	
58	6-8-50	NK. TELETYPE TO <sup>HQ 291 9-14-78</sup> NY. PH.	2	2	
59	6-1-50	PH. TELETYPE TO WA. NY. NK.	4	4	
60	6-7-50	NK. TELETYPE TO <sup>HQ</sup> WA. NY. PH.	2	2	
61	6-8-50	PH TELETYPE TO WA, NY, NK	2	2	
NR	6-27-50	(COPY OF SERIAL 62) LETTER FROM NH TO HQ,	2	2	
62	6-27-50	LETTER FROM NH. TO HQ	2	2	
63	6-27-50	LETTER FROM NK TO HQ	1	1	
64	6-28-50	HQ TELETYPE TO PH.	1	1	
65	6-22-50	HQ TELETYPE TO NY, PH.	1	-	BUFILE # 65-57449-✓
NR	6-20-50	AQ TELETYPE TO <sup>HQ</sup> WA, PH, NY	1	-	BUFILE # 65-57449-414

File No: 65-57181Re: THOMAS BLACKDate: 1/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
NR	6.23.50	HQ TELETYPE TO NY, PH, KX	1	-	BUFILE # 65-57449-506
66	6.29.50	HQ TELETYPE TO BS, NK, PH	1	1	
67	6.29.50	HQ LETTER TO LEGAT LONDON	2	2	
68	7.1.50	AL REPORT TO HQ	6	6	
69	7.3.50	NY LETTER TO HQ	1	1	
70	6.26.50	(ENCLOSURE TO 70 WOODY) SE REPORT TO HQ	16	16	
70	6.27.50	SE LETTER TO HQ	1	1	
70	6.31.50	HQ LETTER TO PH	1	1	
71	6.30.50	HQ TELETYPE TO PH	1	-	BUFILE # 65-57449-✓
72	6.9.50	PH TELETYPE TO HQ, NY	2	2	
73	6.28.50	LETTER TO ANOTHER GOVT AGENCY	2	2	
74	6.29.50	HQ TELETYPE TO PH, NY	1	1	

Date: 1/18  
(month/year)

FBI/DOJ

U. S. Department of Justice

MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE

**FEDERAL BUREAU**

*of*

**INVESTIGATION**



**USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE**

**Transfer-Call 421**

6181

SECTION 2  
SERIALS 26-75

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 4 1960

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

WASHINGTON 1 NEW YORK 1 PHILADELPHIA 1 FROM NEWARK 5 1-05AM

DIRECTOR AND SAC-S URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS, ESP-R. SUBJECT SPENT DAY OF JUNE THIRD AT ONE SEVEN SEVEN EAST RAILWAY AVENUE, PATERSON, N.J. DOING SMALL REPAIR AND CLEANING TASKS. SUBJECT WAS JOINED MORNING OF JUNE FOUR BY INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFIED AS JACOB ISRAEL FASS, AKA JACK FASS. BACKGROUND INFO RE FASS PREVIOUSLY FURNISHED BY THIS OFFICE. BOTH SUBJECT AND FASS LEFT PATERSON BY BUS AT SIX FIFTEEN PM JUNE FOUR. THEY PROCEEDED TO PENN STATION, NYC, WHERE SUBJECT AND FASS SEPARATED. SUBJECT ATE MEAL AND ATTENDED MOVIE NEAR PENN STATION AND THEN BOARDED TRAIN FOR PHILA AT NINE THIRTY PM ACCOMPANIED BY TWO AGENTS OF THIS OFFICE. PHILA ADVISED BY PHONE AND SURVEILLANCE WILL BE TURNED OVER TO PHILA OFFICE AT PHILA.

MCKEE

RECORDED - 24

65-59181-26

END

WA NK R-1 WA DW

NY NK R-1 NY JH

PH NK R 1 PH AAB

DISC

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASHINGTON 5 NEW YORK 2 NEWARK 3 FROM PHILA

6-5-50

12-04 PM

DIRECTOR AND SACS.....U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP - R. RE NEWARK LETTER JUNE TWO LAST SUBMITTING  
HANDWRITING SPECIMEN OF SUBJECT. FBI LAB REQUESTED TO SEARCH HAND-  
WRITING SPECIMEN THROUGH THE MASTER SECURITY FILE CONTAINING SPECIMENS  
OF KNOWN ESPIONAGE AGENTS.

CORNELIUS

END ALL AAD PLS

WA PH R 5 WA DL

NY PH R2 NY GAF

NK PH R 2 NWK MMD PLS ACK AGAIN NK

PH R 3 NK MMD

RECORDED

JUN 27 1950

*No action necessary*

65-59181-27

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASHINGTON 2 NEW YORK 2 AND PHILADELPHIA 2 FROM NEWARK 4

8-36 PM

DIRECTOR AND SACS

DEFERRED

THOMAS L. BLACK WAS ESP. R. SUBJECT SPENT NIGHT AT ONE SEVEN SEVEN EAST RAILWAY AVENUE, PATERSON, N. J. OBSERVATIONS REFLECT NO CONTACTS. SURVEILLANCE ~~CONTINUED~~ CONTINUING.

MC KEE

END

RECORDED - 45

ACK IN ORDER PLS

WA NK R 2 WA FEJ

NY NK R2 NY JAF

PH NK R 2 PH

INDEXED 1950

65-59181-28



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN -4 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

CONF THREE STATIONS

WASHINGTON 1 NEW YORK 1 AND PHILADELPHIA 1 FROM NEWARK

DIRECTOR AND SACS

DEFERRED

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS, ESP. R. SURVEILLANCE OF SUBJECT TAKEN OVER FROM PHILA AGENTS AT TWELVE TWENTY PM ON JUNE THIRD AT PENN RR STATION, NEWARK. SUBJECT PROCEEDED BY BUS TO ONE SEVEN SEVEN EAST RAILWAY AVENUE, PATERSON, NJ CARRYING TWO HEAVY SUITCASES. ABOVE ADDRESS PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED AS SPRUCE CHEMICAL COMPANY. SUBJECT SPENT ENTIRE AFTERNOON AND EVENING OF JUNE THIRD REPAIRING AND CLEANING PREMISES OF SPRUCE COMPANY. IT IS NOTED THAT INTERIOR OF THE BUILDING AT ABOVE ADDRESS IS NOT YET FULLY COMPLETED AND SUBJECT'S ACTIVITIES WERE IN NATURE OF SMALL FINISHING TASKS SUCH AS PAINTING AND SCRAPING. SUBJECT LEFT PREMISES FOR ONE HOUR FOR MEAL AND RETURNED APPARENTLY TO SPEND NIGHT. NO OTHER PERSONS PRESENT ON PREMISES AND NO CONTACTS MADE BY SUBJECT. NEWARK TEL DATED JUNE SECOND AND REPORT OF SA LOUIS G. TURNER DATED MAY THIRTY FIRST IN HARRY GOLD CASE SET FORTH ALL BACKGROUND INFO RE BLACK PRESENTLY AVAILABLE AT NEWARK. SHOULD OFFICE OF ORIGIN DESIRE MORE COMPLETE INFO RE SUBJECT IT WILL NECESSITATE CONTACT WITH FORMER FELLOW EMPLOYEES AT NOPCO CHEMICAL COMPANY WHICH MAY RESULT IN SUBJECT BECOMING AWARE OF OUR INTEREST IN HIM. RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION RE INSURANCE CARRIED BY SUBJECT THROUGH NOPCO COMPANY AND RECORDS AT WEST HUDSON HOSPITAL, KEARNY, NJ NOT AVAILABLE UNTIL JUNE FIFTH. NEWARK INDICES NEGATIVE RE ALL ALIASES OF SUBJECT.

53 JUL 21 1950

RECORDED - 28

MC KEE

165-59181-29

END

PLS ACK IN ORDER

JUN 21 1950

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WA 1 PH 1 NK 1 NY 1 FROM BALT 4 5-19 PM EDST-CPW

DIRECTOR AND SACS U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP DASH R. RE PH TELS JUNE SECOND AND THIRD LAST.  
WHITTAKER CHAMBERS INTERVIEWED TODAY AND PHOTOGRAPH OF SUBJECT  
DISPLAYED TO HIM. CHAMBERS STATES HE DOES NOT KNOW BLACK AND HAS NO  
RECOLLECTION WHATSOEVER OF SUCH AN INDIVIDUAL. HE CANNOT IDENTIFY  
PHOTOGRAPH.

*Briefed*

MC FARLIN

END

ACK PLS

RECORDED - 75

JUN 27 1955

WA BA R 1 WA HK

PH O

NK BA R 1 NKJMM

NY SA R 1 NY EML

DISC

RETYPE BY HK

65-59181-30

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN - 3 1950

VRP  
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

WASH 1 NK 1 NY 1 BALT 1 FROM PHILA 6-3-50 12-23 AM  
DIRECTOR AND SACS NEWARK, NEW YORK, AND BALTIMORE

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP - R. RE NEWARK TEL JUNE SECOND. IT IS NOT DESIRED THAT ALL KNOWN ASSOCIATES OF BLACK BE INTERVIEWED AT THIS TIME. EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO OBTAIN ALL BACKGROUND INFORMATION AVAILABLE RELATIVE TO BLACK AND AS MUCH DETAIL AS POSSIBLE AND TO DEVELOP ALL INFO RELATIVE TO HIS ACTIVITIES DURING PERTINENT YEARS BUT ALL INVESTIGATION SHOULD BE DISCREET AND CONDUCTED WITH CARE SO THAT HE WILL NOT BE AWARE OF IT. FOR YOUR INFO ALL INFO RE BLACK HAS NOT YET BEEN OBTAINED FROM GOLD AND WILL TAKE SOME TIME TO OBTAIN IN COMPLETE DETAIL. IT IS NOT FELT THAT BLACK SHOULD BE AWARE OF OUR INTEREST IN HIM UNTIL FULL INFO DEVELOPED RE HIS ACTIVITIES. IN VIEW OF INFO AVAILABLE RE BLACK-S ACTIVITIES IT IS POSSIBLE OTHER ASSOCIATES MAY HAVE BEEN ESPIONAGE CONTACTS. ALL OFFICES TO CONTINUE INVESTIGATION OF BLACK AND ASSOCIATES UNDER ABOVE CONDITIONS.

CORNELIUS

END

ACK IN O PLS

WA PH R -1 WA LRP

PIVH R 1 NYC CJJ

NK PH R 1 NK EN

BA PH R1 BA RHS

RECORDED

EX-3

65-59181-31

SERVICE UNIT  
SEARCH SLIP

4-22a

Supervisor BIRD Room 2211

Subj: GEORGE L. RABINOWITZ

☒ Exact Spelling  
☒ All References  
☐ Subversive Ref.  
☐ Mail File  
☐ Restricted to Locality of \_\_\_\_\_

Searchers  
Initial mal  
Date 6-19-50

FILE NUMBER

SERIALS

MR

George Bee

67-252754 id. NI

George

36-1836 id. NI

46-12446 NI

32-15375-118 id. NI

100-138213-54 id. NI

15-19295-2 id. NI

G. S.

MR

G.

61-7341-34-433 24 NI

BTC

Initialed

SERVICE UNIT  
SEARCH SLIP

4-22a

Supervisor BIRD Room 2244

Subj: GREGORY L. RABINOWITZ

☒ Exact Spelling

Searchers

☒ References

Initial mah

☐ Subversive Ref.

Date 6-19-50

☐ Mail File

☐ Restricted to Locality of \_\_\_\_\_

FILE NUMBER

SERIALS

MR

Gregory

100-333706-31p34

NI

Gregorio

65-57981-17

I

Gregor

100-202315-617p180

NI

*written*

(2)

Initialed

SERVICE UNIT  
SEARCH SLIP

4-22a

Supervisor W. J. Anderson Room 1732

Subj: George Rahinovich

☒ Exact Spelling  
☒ All References  
☐ Subversive Ref.  
☐ Mail File  
☐ Restricted to Locality of

Searchers  
Initial nd  
Date 6-19-50

FILE NUMBER

SERIALS

100-30835

247

NI

George L. Rahinovich  
NR

G. L. Rahinovich  
NR

G. Rahinovich  
NR

One Rahinovich

copy 150 mfs. not searched

B7C

Initialed

SERVICE UNIT  
SEARCH SLIP

4-22a

Supervisor Bird Room 2214

Subj: G. L. Rabinovitch

☒ Exact Spelling      Searchers  
☒ All References      Initial mm  
☐ Subversive Ref.      Date 6/22/50  
☐ Mail File  
☐ Restricted to Locality of \_\_\_\_\_

FILE NUMBER

SERIALS

65-57981-18, 214  
George  
40-39225-3 NI  
George  
62-77752-201-7 NI  
62-77787-1816 p. 44 NI  
2532 p. 15 NI  
64-330-272-682 NI  
40-0-2484 2367X1  
64-3006-61 NI  
700-769-4696X6 NI  
G. Rabinovitch  
61-4893-1282 NI

Initialed



SERVICE UNIT  
SEARCH SLIP

4-22a

Supervisor Bend

Room 2244

Subj: Gregory Lovich Rabinovitch

☒ Exact Spelling  
☒ All References  
☐ Subversive Ref.  
☐ Mail File  
☐ Restricted to Locality of \_\_\_\_\_

Searchers  
Initial May  
Date 6/20/57

FILE NUMBER

SERIALS

65-57981-184

Mrs. -

65-57981-18 h.T.

Grigore -

100-24712 NI

40-23242-5 NI

Gregory -

100-24712-1.T. NI

40-23242 h.T.

62-69465-3 NI

100-333706-31 & 34 NI

100-100095-14 NI

100-69846-22 NI

61-42-6451

65-57981-17

ATC

Initialed



SERVICE UNIT  
SEARCH SLIP

4-22a

Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_

Subj: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Exact Spelling                      Searchers  
\_\_\_\_\_  
All References                      Initial \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Subversive Ref.                      Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mail File  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Restricted to Locality of \_\_\_\_\_

FILE NUMBER

SERIALS

*Gregory L.* \_\_\_\_\_  
*65-57981-18, 21, 20*

*Went*

*B7c*

Initialed

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN - 2 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	

WASHINGTON 5 NY 2 NEWARK 3 BALT 1 FROM PHILA

6-2-50

12:55(P) VFH  
[Signature]

DIRECTOR AND SACS.. U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP - R. RE PHILA. TEL JUNE FIRST, FIFTY. HARRY GOLD INTERVIEWED EVENING OF JUNE FIRST AND SUPPLIED FOLLOWING INFO CONCERNING SUBJECT. GOLD SAID HE FIRST MET BLACK IN NINETEEN THIRTY-THREE AT THE HOLBROOK CO. AT JERSEY CITY, N. J. GOLD SAID HE MET BLACK THROUGH A MAN NAMED FRED HELLER AT PENNA. SUGAR CO., PHILA. GOLD STATED THAT THERE WAS NO ESPIONAGE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HELLER, BLACK AND HIMSELF AND KNOWS OF NO SUCH ACTIVITIES ON THE PART OF HELLER. GOLD SAID THAT IN NINETEEN THIRTYTHREE HE HAD LOST HIS JOB AT PENNA. SUGAR CO. AND THROUGH HELLER WAS SENT TO THE HOLBROOK CO. AND SECURED THE JOB THAT HAD BEEN HELD BY BLACK. BLACK AT THIS TIME HAD SECURED ANOTHER JOB FOR HIMSELF. GOLD SAID THAT EARLY IN HIS ASSOCIATION WITH BLACK HE KNEW THAT THE LATTER HAD RADICAL LEANINGS ALTHOUGH NOTHING CONCERNING HIS FUTURE ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES CAME UP DURING GOLD-S STAY IN JERSEY CITY. GOLD SAID THAT HIS ENTRANCE INTO ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES WAS PARTLY BECAUSE OF THE DEBT HE FELT TO BLACK AND ALSO HIS DESIRE TO HELP THE SOVIET UNION. GOLD SAID THAT IN LATE NINETEEN THIRTYFIVE HE WENT TO NY WITH BLACK AND MET PAUL SMITH IN DOWNTOWN NY. GOLD SAID THAT SMITH TOLD HIM ALMOST IMMEDIATELY AFTER THIS MEETING THAT HE WAS NOT TO SEE BLACK AGAIN EXCEPT UNDER THE DIRECT INSTRUCTIONS OF SMITH. GOLD SAID THAT NEITHER HE NOR BLACK COMPLETELY OBEYED THESE ORDERS SINCE THEY HAD BECOME CLOSE FRIENDS. GOLD RECALLS THAT ONE ONE OCCASION IN THE

RECORDED

JUN 21 1950

1 AUG 7 1950  
END PAGE ONE

65-59181-32

PAGE TWO

SUMMER OF NINETEEN THIRTYSEVEN BLACK WAS INJURED IN AN EXPLOSION AND SENT TO A HOSPITAL IN KEARNY, NJ. GOLD SAID HE WANTED TO SEE BLACK IN THE HOSPITAL AND LATER TOLD HIS RUSSIAN CONTACT FRED OF BLACK-S ACCIDENT AND HOSPITALIZATION. GOLD SAID THAT FRED BECAME VERY PERTURBED OVER THE FACT THAT THE TWO HAD MET AGAINST ORDERS. GOLD SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE IS QUITE SURE THAT BLACK WAS NOT A CONTACT OF FRED. GOLD SAID THAT ON ONE OCCASION BLACK LET DROP THE INFORMATION THAT HE WAS WORKING ON TROTSKYITE ACTIVITIES IN AN EFFORT TO DETERMINE THE DIRECT LINK BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND TROTSKY IN NINETEEN THIRTYSEVEN OR THIRTYEIGHT. GOLD DOES NOT KNOW HOW LONG BLACK WAS ENGAGED IN ESPIONAGE AGAINST THE TROTSKYITE MOVEMENT. IT IS GOLD-S IMPRESSION THAT BLACK FREQUENTLY LOST CONTACT WITH HIS RUSSIAN ASSOCIATES. GOLD RECALLS THAT ONCE IN NINETEEN FORTYONE WHEN THEY HAD BOTH LOST CONTACT THAT THEY TALKED ABOUT WAYS AND MEANS OF REESTABLISHING CONTACT. GOLD RECALLS THAT HE MENTIONED SOMETHING TO BLACK IN NINETEEN FORTYSIX WHEN HE, GOLD, HAD LOST CONTACT. GOLD ALSO STATES THAT HE

IS CERTAIN THAT

BLACK HAS HAD NO CONTACT WITH THE RUSSIANS SINCE RETURNING TO PHILA. GOLD STATED THAT FROM A STATEMENT AND DESCRIPTION WHICH BLACK ONCE GAVE HIM THAT HE IS SURE THAT BLACK KNEW ~~SAN~~ WHO HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS SEMEN ~~SE~~SENOV. GOLD IS ALSO UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT BLACK DROPPED OUT OF SOVIET ESPIONAGE TO A GREAT EXTENT IN NINETEEN THIRTYSEVEN OR THIRTYEIGHT. GOLD SAID THAT

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

BLACK ALSO CALLED HIS ATTENTION UPON ONE OCCASION AS GOLD RECALLS, IN NINETEEN THIRTYSEVEN OR THIRTYEIGHT, TO THE NAME WHITAKER CHAMBERS LISTED AMONG THE EDITORS IN AN ISSUE OF TIME MAGAZINE. GOLD SAID BLACK TOLD HIM AT THAT TIME THAT HE HAD KNOWN CHAMBERS IN ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES AND ALSO KNEW THAT CHAMBERS HAD TURNED IN EVIDENCE TO ARMY INTELLIGENCE. GOLD SAID THAT AT NO TIME WAS THERE MUCH DISCUSSION BETWEEN HIMSELF AND BLACK RELATIVE TO EITHER OF THEIR ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES THAT BOTH HAD THE UNSPOKEN UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY WOULD NOT DISCUSS SUCH MATTERS. THE NEWARK OFFICE IS REQUESTED TO FORWARD TO PHILA. A LIST OF QUESTIONS CONCERNING CP ACTIVITIES IN JERSEY CITY, NJ, DURING THE PERIOD OF NINETEEN THIRTYTHREE TO THIRTYSIX, SO THAT THESE QUESTIONS MAY BE USED IN AN INITIAL INTERVIEW WITH BLACK. THE NYO IS REQUESTED TO CONTACT LOUIS BUDENZ CONCERNING BLACK INASMUCH AS GOLD HAS STATED THAT BLACK WAS ENGAGED IN ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES CONCERNING THE TROTSKYITE PARTY. INASMUCH AS BLACK HAS NOT BEEN INTERVIEWED ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO HIMSELF AT THIS TIME, ALL OFFICES ARE CAUTIONED THAT INVESTIGATION IN THIS CASE SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN AN EXPEDITIOUS AND VERY DISCREET FASHION. BALT. WILL INTERVIEW CHAMBERS ON RECEIPT OF PHOTO OF BLACK. NEWARK EXPEDITE PHOTOS TO INTERESTED OFFICES.

CORNELIUS

WA AND NY HOLD RST ACK AND SC

NK PH R 2 NK

BA PHR Q B PHR 1 BA ELH

JUN - 2 1950  
WRP  
TELETYPE

Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_  
Hershey  
10:55 PM  
10/5/50

WASH 17 NEW YORK 11 PHILA 3 BALT 2 FROM NEWARK 2

DIRECTOR AND SAC-S

U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS, ESP-R. RE PHILA TEL JUNE SECOND. PHOTOGRAPH OF SUBJECT FORWARDED THIS DATE TO BALTIMORE. COPIES TO INTERESTED OFFICES ON JUNE FIFTH. HANDWRITING SPECIMENS OF SUBJECT FORWARDED TO FBI LAB TODAY. FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND RE BLACK TO ASSIST IN INTERVIEWS. JANITOR AT CHELLIS AUSTIN APARTMENTS, NEWARK, N. J., STATED BLACK TOOK RESIDENCE IN UNIT NUMBER ONE OF THE APT. PROJECT IN NINETEEN THIRTY TWO WHERE HE SHARED AN APT WITH ONE ERNEST SEGESSEMAN UNTIL NINETEEN THIRTY SEVEN WHEN HE MOVED TO APT E THREE IN UNIT NUMBER FOUR. SEGESSEMAN AT THAT TIME MOVED TO WOODRIDGE, N. J. HE FURTHER STATED THAT BLACK ACTUALLY MOVED TO PHILA IN EARLY NINETEEN FORTY EIGHT, BUT RETAINED HIS APARTMENT UNTIL JANUARY FORTY NINE, ALLOWING FRIENDS TO USE THE APT. FOR THE INTERVENING YEAR. IDENTITY OF OCCUPANTS DURING FORTY EIGHT NOT KNOWN TO JANITOR OR APT. MANAGEMENT. IT IS NOTED THAT RECORDS OF CHELLIS AUSTIN REFLECT RENTAL TO BLACK FROM JULY THIRTY SEVEN TO JANUARY FORTY NINE IN UNIT NUMBER FOUR, BUT NO RECORD OF OCCUPANCY PRIOR TO THIRTY SEVEN OR OF HIS DEPARTURE IN FORTY EIGHT. JANITOR, HOWEVER, INSISTS THAT BLACK WAS ACTUALLY PRESENT IN UNIT ONE FROM THIRTY TWO TO THIRTY SEVEN WITH SEGESSEMAN AND IN UNIT FOUR ALONE FROM THIRTY SEVEN TO EARLY FORTY EIGHT. JANITOR STATED THAT OUTSTANDING RECOLLECTION OF BLACK WAS HIS RETENTION OF SMALL ANIMALS IN HIS APT., INCLUDING ONE LARGE BLACK SNAKE, TWO PET CROWS, AND A RAT NAMED QUOTE NELLIE UNQUOTE. THE LATTER WAS KNOWN TO BLACK-S FRIENDS AS THE QUOTE OLDEST LIVING RAT UNQUOTE. HE ADDED THAT THERE WAS NO DOUBT CONCERNING COMMUNIST TENDENCIES OF BLACK SEGESSEMAN, BUT THEY WERE WELL LIKED BY NEIGHBORS.

RECORDED 424

65-5981-23

PAGE TWO

RECORDS OF NOPCO CHEMICAL CO., FORMERLY NATIONAL OIL PRODUCTS, HARRISON, N. J., REFLECT ERNEST SEGESSEMAN EMPLOYED DECEMBER FIRST TWENTY EIGHT TO DECEMBER THIRTY FIRST FORTY TWO AS RESEARCH CHEMIST. BORN MARCH TWENTY EIGHT NINETEEN ZERO ONE. FIVE FEET SIX INCHES, ONE FIFTY FIVE POUNDS, RESIDED FORTY TWO AT ONE SIX FIVE TWELFTH STREET, WOODBRIDGE, N. J., WITH PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS OF TWO ONE THREE EAST NINETEENTH STREET, NYC. DISCREET INQUIRY AT NOPCO CO. REFLECTS BLACK WAS ALSO FRIENDLY WITH ONE JACOB ISRAEL FASS, AKA JACK FASS, AND IS NOW ASSOCIATED WITH HIM IN BUSINESS. IN VIEW OF ABOVE INFO IT IS BELIEVED THAT JACOB FASS IS ASSOCIATED WITH P. A. DITTEN AND BLACK IN OPERATION OF SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO., PATERSON, N. J. AND IS IDENTICAL TO THE JACK FAST REFERRED TO BY INFORMANT [REDACTED] PER PHILA TEL OF THIS DATE. RECORDS AT ANOPCO REFLECT JACOB FASS EMPLOYED AT THAT COMPANY AUGUST FIRST THIRTY EIGHT TO JUNE TWENTIETH FORTY FOUR AS RESEARCH CHEMIST. RESIDED THREE SIX SEVEN MILLER AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY. BORN SEPTEMBER FIRST NINETEEN EIGHTEEN AT BROOKLYN, NY. U. S. CITIZEN, AUSTRIAN, FIVE FEET ELEVEN AND ONE HALF INCHES, ONE FIFTY FOUR POUNDS, WEARS GLASSES PART TIME. PARENTS MEYER AND IDA FASS, BROTHER SEYMOUR FASS. GRADUATED THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL, BROOKLYN, N. Y. IN THIRTY FOUT, AND AB DEGREE FROM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, NYC, IN THIRTY EIGHT. MEMBER PHI BETA KAPPA. RECEIVED PULITZER AND NY STATE SCHOLARSHIPS IN CHEMISTRY. NOPCO COMPANY RECEIVED REFERENCE REQUEST RE FASS IN UUNE FORTY FOUR FROM REVLOX PRODUCTS, NYC. FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS BELIEVED TO BE ACTIVE IN CP IN N. J.

END OF PAGE TWO

B7C

PAGE THREE

IN PERIOD THIRTY THREE TO THIRTY SIX. JAY ANYON, CANDIDATE FOR STATE  
SENATOR IN NOVEMBER THIRTY SEVEN, PAUL SIEGEL AND BENJAMIN ABRONOWITZ,  
CANDIDATES FOR NJ STATE ASSEMBLY IN NOVEMBER THIRTY SEVEN, FRANK DONN-  
ELLY, [REDACTED] AND CHRISTY SAPORITA,  
[REDACTED] BOTH ACTIVE IN CP, DAVE  
BRANDT, NJ ORG SECRETARY IN THIRTY NINE, LENA DAVIS, NJ CP SECRETARY  
IN THIRTY NINE. OFFICE OF ORIGIN SUTEL IF ALL KNOWN ASSOCIATES OF BLACK  
ARE TO BE INTERVIEWED, PARTICULARLY FASS AND SEGESSEMAN.

MC KEE

B7C

END

WA NK 4//// R-11 WA LRP

NY

BORTH MODL FOR WASH PLSE AFTER ACK

NK R 11 NYC REOT

PH NK R 3 PH BLW

BA NK R 2 BA CPW

DSC M

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

DATE: June 2, 1950

FROM : C. A. Moynihan *cam*SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

Special Agent T. Scott Miller, Philadelphia Office, advised as follows concerning information furnished by Harry Gold in regard to captioned case:

Gold first met Black in Jersey City in 1933. He knew that Black, a chemist, had radical leanings. Black got him a job at Halbrook Company, Jersey City and Black introduced him to Paul Smith. (This is the only change from Gold's earlier statement on how he first met Paul Smith.) This introduction occurred late in 1935 in New York City. At that time Smith told Gold not to see Black again except on Smith's orders.

Around 1937 or 1938 Black told Gold that he was engaged in "intelligence against the Trotskyites" and since Gold and Black had little conversation with each other about their espionage activities, Gold doesn't know what else Black has done for the Russians.

Black frequently lost contact with the Russians and used to come to Gold to get in touch again. Early in 1946 when Gold himself lost contact with them he went to Black only to learn that Black hadn't been in touch with the Russians "for a long time."

About 1938 Black pointed to Whittaker Chambers' name as Editor of "Time" and told Gold he knew Chambers in connection with espionage. He also told Gold that Chambers had given information "on his own activities to Army Intelligence." Several times subsequent to 1938 Black talked about Chambers (prior to 1946) and wondered if Chambers would remember him.

On one occasion Black described to Gold his Russian contact - and Gold is certain it was Sam (Semen/Semenov).

CAM:jam

RECORDED - 115

165-59181-34

JUN 21 1950

INDEXED - 115

58 JUN 21 1950

58 JUN 22 1950

918



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-144

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

June 20, 1950

Transmit the following message to: SACs, PHILADELPHIA  
NEW YORK

URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP-R.

RE PHILA TEL EIGHTEENTH INSTANT REQUESTING SEARCH BUFILES RE DR. GEORGE  
RABINOVICH AND POSSIBILITY HE IS IDENTICAL WITH BLACK'S SUPERIOR, DR. ROBERT  
SCHWARTZ. AS NOTED IN WFO TEL JUNE NINETEENTH REPLYING THERETO, SIGNIFICANT DATA  
APPEARS IN CASE ENTITLED QUOTE UNSUB, WAS., ROBERTS, RABINOWITZ, MR. RICH,  
ESPIONAGE - R UNQUOTE AS FOLLOWS: PHILA REFER TO NY LETTER TO BUREAU MARCH  
ELEVENTH, FORTY EIGHT, ENTITLED QUOTE UNSUB, WA. ROBERTS, UNSOLVED SITUATION,  
ESPIONAGE - R UNQUOTE REFLECTING INFO RECEIVED FROM LOUIS BUDENZ RE HIS CONTACT  
IN LATE THIRTIES WITH THREE MEMBERS RUSSIAN SECRET POLICE WHOSE COVER NAMES WERE  
RICHARDS, MICHAELS, AND ROBERTS. SEE DESCRIPTION OF ROBERTS THEREIN. NOTE THAT  
BUDENZ INTRODUCED TO ROBERTS PRESUMABLY IN THIRTY SEVEN AND WORKED UNDER DIRECTION  
OF ROBERTS IN INFILTRATING AND GATHERING INTELLIGENCE INFO RE TROTSKYITE MOVEMENT  
(65-57981-1)  
UNTIL THIRTY NINE WHEN ROBERTS LEFT U.S. IN OCTOBER, FORTY EIGHT, BUDENZ  
ADVISED NY OFFICE THAT THRU CONVERSATION WITH ELIZABETH BENTLEY HE BELIEVED  
ROBERTS IDENTICAL WITH DR. RABINOWITZ, MD WHO WORKED FOR AMTORG AND WAS FRIEND  
OF JACOB GOLOS. ON MARCH TWENTY FIFTH, FORTY NINE, BENTLEY TOLD NY OFFICE OF HER  
FIRST MEETING WITH RABINOWITZ IN THIRTY SIX AT AMTORG SUMMER CAMP, HAPANOCH, NY.

COPIES DESTROYED

R 47 NOV 21 1950

SHE SAID HE WAS MD AND CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH AMTORG, BEING ONE OF THOSE  
RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTERING AMTORG SUMMER CAMPS. SHE SAID RABINOWITZ HAD SON,  
BORIS, WHO, IN THIRTY SIX WAS FOURTEEN TO SIXTEEN YEARS OLD AND A WIFE WHO WAS  
WITH HIM IN U.S. SHE BELIEVED RABINOWITZ DEPARTED FROM U.S. IN FORTY OR FORTY ONE  
AND DESCRIBED HIM AS FIVE FEET, SIX OR SEVEN INCHES BUILD, HAIR PROBABLY  
BLACK ORIGINALLY BUT TURNING DEEP GRAY. BENTLEY, HOWEVER, SAID SHE WAS NOT AS  
CERTAIN AS WAS BUDENZ THAT DR. RABINOWITZ WAS IDENTICAL WITH UNSUB ROBERTS.

SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED BY NY AND WFO IDENTIFIED DOCTOR AS DR.

SENT VIA TELETYPE  
NY:che 65-59181

71 AUG 7 1950

949

65-59181-35  
JUN 21 1950  
C. HART

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

Transmit the following message to:

(BLACK, THOS. L.)

Page Two

GREGORY LYORICH RABINOVITCH OR RABINOWITZ, WHOSE WIFE, AS MISS SCHWARTZ, WAS EMPLOYEE OF ANTORG. [REDACTED] LEARNED FROM JOSEPH IVANOVICH WITTENBERG, WHO WAS ANTORG OFFICIAL IN THIRTY SIX AND THIRTY SEVEN, THAT DR. RABINOVITCH WAS QUOTE BIG BOSS UNQUOTE OF GPU IN U.S. AT THAT TIME. RABINOVITCH APPARENTLY HEADED RUSSIAN RED CROSS IN U. S. FROM THIRTY FIVE TO FORTY. (45-57981-17) THE FILES, WASHINGTON, D. C., REFLECT FOLLOWING DATA RE RABINOVITCH: AGE FORTY THREE IN THIRTY FIVE, WIFE FANNIE SIEDOROVNA RABINOVITCH, CHILDREN BORIS, AGE THIRTEEN, AND SONIA, AGE TEN, BOTH IN THIRTY FIVE. HE WAS BORN IN RUSSIA AND ARRIVED IN U.S. OCTOBER TENTH, THIRTY FOUR, AT NYC, ON SS MAJESTIC, POSSESSING RUSSIAN PASSPORT. FILE REFLECTS RESIDENCES ALL IN BROOKLYN, NY, AS NINE TWENTY PROSPECT PLACE IN THIRTY FIVE, AND FOURTEEN ZERO SIX PACIFIC STREET AND ONE SIX SIX BROOKLYN AVENUE IN THIRTY SIX. INS FILE INDICATED HE DEPARTED FROM U.S. DECEMBER TWENTY SIXTH, THIRTY EIGHT, ABOARD NORMANDY. HIS HEIGHT LISTED BOTH AS FIVE FEET <sup>FIVE</sup> EIGHT INCHES AND FIVE FEET NINE INCHES. (45-57981-18) REF. PHILA TEL ADVISED MATERIAL OF BLACK LOCATED VAN POSNAX STORAGE CO. IN NEWARK INCLUDED LETTER ADDRESSED TO DR. EARL WILLIAM FLOSDORFF IN FORTY TWO, SIGNED DR. G. L. RABINOVICH. NOTE ABOVE INFO INDICATING RED CROSS OFFICIAL DR. RABINOVITCH DEPARTED U.S. IN THIRTY EIGHT OR FORTY. PERTINENT SERIALS CONTAINING ABOVE DATA RE ROBERTS

AND RABINOVITCH, WAS., BEING FORWARDED /MSD TO PHILA. PHILA. INSTRUCTED TO SET OUT LEADS TO IDENTIFY DR. EARL WILLIAM FLOSDORFF AND CONSIDER ADVISABILITY OF INTERVIEWING HIM RE BLACK AND RABINOVITCH. SEARCH BUFILES RE RABINOVITCH, WAS., CONTINUING AND ANY ADDITIONAL PERTINENT INFO LOCATED WILL BE FURNISHED.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 20 1950

SENT VIA TELETYPE

HOOVER

Per

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E.A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Mumford	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

WASHINGTON 4 AND NY 1 FROM PHILADELPHIA 6-6-50 12-34 PM

DIRECTOR AND SAC.. U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP - R. SUBJECT ATTENDED AS LESSING BLACK, BLOOMSBURG, PA. HIGH SCHOOL, GRADUATING IN NINETEEN TWENTYFIVE AND PENN STATE COLLEGE AT STATE COLLEGE, PA. LEAVING LATTER INSTITUTION IN JUNE, TWENTYNINE WITHOUT DEGREE BECAUSE OF INSUFFICIENT CREDITS FOR GRADUATION. ROBERT ~~X~~ SUTLIFFE, SIXTEEN JOHNS ST., BALDWIN, L. I., NY, AND CURRENTLY EMPLOYED AS CIVIL SERVICE INVESTIGATOR, BELIEVED WORKING FOR MAIN OFFICE OF CIVIL SERVICE ON WASHINGTON ST., NYC, WAS REPORTED AS HAVING BEEN A GOOD FRIEND OF BLACK DURING YOUTH IN BLOOMSBURG, PA. IF INDICES NEGATIVE NY REQUESTED TO INTERVIEW SUTLIFFE CONCERNING BLACK-S RELATIVES, ACTIVITIES, RESIDENCES, ASSOCIATES AND OBTAIN ALL OTHER INFO AVAILABLE. SUBJECT OPENED BANK ACCOUNT AT THE INDUSTRIAL TRUST CO., PHILA., PA., ON JAN. EIGHTEEN, FORTYSIX, WITH THE DEPOSIT OF THREE CHECKS, EACH IN AMOUNT OF SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS DRAWN ON THE PUBLIC NATIONAL BANK, NYC, PAYEE OF CHECKS NOT KNOWN. DATES OF CHECKS NOT KNOWN. PROBABLY CLEARED AT NY BANK ON JAN. NINETEEN OR TWENTY. INDUSTRIAL CO. PREFIX NUMBER IS THREE DASH SEVENTYSIX OVER THREE ONE NAUGHT. NY SHOULD INQUIRE OF PUBLIC NATIONAL BANK FOR ANY ACCOUNT OF SUBJECT AND IF ACCOUNT LOCATED THERE, MAKE ANALYSIS OF SUBJECT-S BANK ACCOUNT FROM TIME OPENED UNTIL CLOSED. SUBMIT RESULTS IN DETAIL TO PHILA. SO THAT THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE

WHEN SUBJECT INTERVIEWED. EXPEDITE. IF NO ACCOUNT LOCATED, ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY MAKER OF CHECKS AND PAYEE.

RECORDED - 29  
INDEXED - 28

JUN 21 1950

CORNELIUS END BOTH AAD PLS

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was;  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 21, 1950

Re Philadelphia letter dated June 5, 1950.

Six prints and all the negatives of a 1929 Penn State College Yearbook photograph of subject are being sent with a copy of this letter to Philadelphia.

Two prints are likewise being sent to Baltimore for exhibition to WHITTAKER CHAMBERS.

CC: Baltimore (Enc. 2)  
Philadelphia (Enc. 16)

FJZ:JMH  
65-15338

65-59181-37

RECORDED - 94

JUN 12 1950

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

WASHINGTON 10 NEW YORK 5 NEWARK 1 FROM PHILA 6-12-50 6-41 PM  
DIRECTOR AND SACS.....U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP. - R. SUBJECT ARRIVED PHILA ELEVEN THIRTY FIVE PM, JUNE ELEVEN, AND SURVEILLANCE TAKEN OVER FROM NEWARK AGENTS. WENT IMMEDIATELY TO RESIDENCE. AT TWELVE TWENTYFIVE THIS PM, BLACK LEFT DRUG STORE, TWENTY FORTY GERMANTOWN AVE., WITH MAN WHOSE CAR HE ENTERED AND WITH WHOM HE TALKED TEN MINUTES. BLACK RETURNED TO WORK AND MAN DROVE DOWN TOWN, PARKED, AND ENGAGED IN TACTICS WHICH SEEMED FOR PURPOSE OF DETECTING POSSIBLE SURVEILLANCE. THIS MAN IDENTIFIED AS JOSEPH A. MULLEN, SIX SEVEN ONE SIX NORTH EIGHTH ST., PHILA., EMPLOYED SINCE JAN., FIFTY, AS SALESMAN BY HUGO BOSA LEATHER CO., SPRINGFIELD, OHIO. MULLEN DRIVING CAR RENTED FROM DALY MOTOR CO., FIFTYTHIRD AND BALTIMORE, FOR SIX MONTHS WITH OPTION TO BUY. PHILA INDICES NEGATIVE RE MULLEN. SURVEILLANCE OF BLACK AT PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT REFLECTS HE KEEPS CONSTANT WATCH OUT WINDOW AS THOUGH TRYING TO IDENTIFY SURVEILLANCE. NEWARK PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MARVIN HENSCHEL, A RELATIVE OF BLACK-S EMPLOYER, BERG, LIVED FOR A WHILE IN BLACK-S APARTMENT AT CHUELLIS AUSTIN APARTMENTS. BERG ADVISES HE HAS NO RELATIVE NAMED HENSCHEL. NEWARK REQUESTED TO MAKE ADDITIONAL

COPIES DESTROYED

47 NOV 21 1964

END PAGE ONE

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65-59181-38

JUN 23 1950

PAGE TWO

INQUIRIES TO ESTABLISH IDENTIFY AND BACKGROUND, MARVIN HENSCHEL. NEW YORK WILL DETERMINE, THROUGH [REDACTED] AND CREDIT SOURCES, VOLUME AND NATURE OF BUSINESS DONE BY FINE ORGANICS TO DETERMINE WHETHER IT IS A LEGITIMATE CONCERN. POSSIBILITY CONSIDERED THAT F. O. IS A COVER COMPANY.

B7D

CORNELIUS

END ALL AAD PLS

WA PH R10 WA SMS

NY PH R 5 NYC REOT

NK PH R 1 NK CEC

K

WHAT TIME DID U SEND NO4 POXXX PLS

AT 3-30 PM

O

OK TKS ROLL BACK FOR ACK PLS

cc: Mr. [unclear]  
Mr. [unclear]



SERVICE UNIT  
SEARCH SLIP

4-22a

Supervisor Marchessault Room 3708

Subj: Joseph A. Mullen

☒ Exact Spelling

Searchers

☒ All References

Initial JP

☐ Subversive Ref.

Date 6-16-50

☐ Main File

☐ Restricted to Locality of \_\_\_\_\_

FILE NUMBER

SERIALS

NR

Joseph Aloysius Mullen

NR 21-4-480350

Joseph Anthony Mullen

NR 21-4-4885

NR 21-4-270360

Joseph Mullen

NR 67-36280

NR 67-5358

NR 26-160370 L

NR 42-44831

NR 91-577-562

NR 26-16738-22, 1

please file  
FM

Initialed

B7C

cu

JUNE 22, 1950 \_ URGENT

SAC PHILADELPHIA  
NEW YORK

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESPIONAGE DASH R. RE PHILA TEL JUNE TWELVE LAST. A  
REVIEW OF THE BUREAU FILES FAILED TO REFLECT ANY IDENTIFIABLE DATA ON JOSEPH A.

MULLEN. THE ATTENTION OF THE PHILA AND NY OFFICE IS BEING CALLED TO THE CASE

ENTITLED [REDACTED] PHILA FILE [REDACTED] WITH

NY ORIGIN, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE PHILA OFFICE SHOULD ASCERTAIN BACKGROUND OF JOSEPH A. MULLEN AND  
HIS POSSIBLE CONNECTION WITH BLACK.

HOOVER

B7C

AJM: :EWT

COPIES DESTROYED  
R 47 NOV 21 1960

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

65-59181-38



100-21-1

Over...

WASHINGTON 28 NEWARK 10 AND NY 12 FROM PHILA 6-2-50 813 PM

DIRECTOR AND SACS..... U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., TASSO LESSING BLACK, LESSING BLACK AND DOC  
ESP - R. RE PHILA. TEL JUNE TWO, FIFTY. ADDITIONAL PREVIOUS  
EMPLOYMENTS OF BLACK ARE FINE ORGANICS, LODI, N. J., THIRTYFOUR  
DASH THIRTYFIVE. ONE OF PARTNERS IS ERNEST SEGASMAN /PH/ PERSONAL  
FRIEND OF BLACK AND HARRY GOLD. SEGASMAN WAS BLACK-S SUPERIOR  
AT NATIONAL OIL PRODUCTS CO. PRIOR TO GOING INTO BUSINESS FOR  
SELF. BLACK DID PART TIME RESEARCH FOR UNION BAG AND PAPER CO.  
EITHER AT NEWARK OR PHILA. DURING PAST THREE OR FOUR YRS.  
POOR-S DIRECTORY LISTS UNION BAG AND PAPER CO. AS BEING LOCATED  
TWO THREE THREE BROADWAY, NYC. BLACK ATTENDED PENN STATE  
COLLEGE AND BELIEVED TO HAVE GRADUATED IN TWENTYNINE. BIRTH  
RECORDS VERIFY BIRTH AS BEING JULY FIVE SEVEN AT BLOOMSBURG, PA.  
FATHER ALFRED BRUCE BLACK DECEASED ABOUT TWENTYFIVE AND MOTHER  
MARY HELEN WILLIAMS BELIEVED DECEASED. ATTENDED BLOOMSBURG  
HIGH SCHOOL UNDER NAME LESSING BLACK AND GRADUATED IN TWENTYFIVE.  
LEFT FOR PENN STATE COLLEGE AND NEVER RETURNED TO BLOOMSBURG.  
(PRESENT EMPLOYER CHARLES W. BERG STATES THAT BLACK IS AN OUT-  
STANDING U. S. CHEMIST WHO HELPED DEVELOP THE MASS PRODUCTION OF  
PENICILLIN. BLACK-S HOURS ARE IRREGULAR. HE IS SINGLE AND  
DOES NOT POSSESS A CAR. IS REPORTED TO GO TO NEWARK FOR A  
WEEKEND EVERY TWO OR THREE WEEKS. HAS NOT BEEN TO NEWARK FOR  
PAST THREE WEEKS. EX BLACK IS PRESENTLY UNDER SURVEILLANCE BY PHILA.

AGENTS. THE SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO., FORMERLY OF THREE

THREE FIVE SEVEN MILLER ST., PHILA., HAS MOVED TO NORTHERN NEW JERSEY.

COPIES DESTROYED  
R 47 NOV 21 1960

RECORDED - 21 65-59181-39  
INDEXED 28 JUN 24 1950

100-21-1 THIS INDICATING NO MEMBERSHIP ON JACOB KASS WHO MAY BE 67c

PAGE TWO

IDENTICAL WITH JACOB FASS ONE OF THE OWNERS OF THE SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO. CHARLES W. BERG PRESENT EMPLOYER ADVISED THAT ABRAHAM BROTHMAN ARRANGED AN INTERVIEW IN NEW YORK ABOUT TWO YRS. AGO FOR BLACK WITH AMTORG REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING A JOB IN RUSSIA FOR BLACK. BLACK TOLD BERG FOLLOWING THIS INTERVIEW THAT HE DID NOT TAKE THE JOB BECAUSE HE MIGHT NOT BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE RUSSIA ONCE HE GOT THERE. NEWARK OFFICE SHOULD VERIFY EMPLOYMENT AT FINE ORGANICS THROUGH NATIONAL OIL PRODUCTS IF POSSIBLE. CHECK NEW ALIASES OF SUBJECT THRU INDICES. INQUIRE OF INSURANCE CARRIER OF NATIONAL OIL PRODUCTS FOR INFO RE INVESTIGATION BY THEM WHEN BLACK SEVERELY BURNED IN THIRTYSEVEN. ALSO CHECK HOSPITAL RECORDS. NEWARK OFFICE SHOULD ALSO BE READY TO TAKE OVER THE PHYSICAL SURVEILLANCE OF SUBJECT IF SUBJECT GOES TO NEWARK. NEWARK SHOULD CHECK CURRENT CP INFORMANTS TO ASCERTAIN IF ANY FAMILIAR WITH CP ACTIVITY FROM THIRTYTHREE TO THIRTYSEVEN WHO MAY POSSIBLY BE ACQUAINTED WITH BLACK. THE NYO WILL CHECK THE RECORDS OF THE UNION BAG AND PAPER CO. TO DETERMINE WHERE BLACK WAS EMPLOYED PART TIME. WILL CONSIDER THE ADVISABILITY OF INQUIRING OF ABRAHAM BROTHMAN OF ANY MEETING ARRANGED BY HIM FOR BLACK WITH AN AMTORG OFFICIALS.

CORNELIUS

CORR LAST WD LAST LINE "OFFICIAL"

END

WA PH R 28 WA LEA

NK PH R 10 NK CEG

NY PH R Q12 NYC REOT

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PHILADELPHIA**

BU FILE NO. **65-1991 CPM**

REPORT MADE AT <b>BUFFALO, NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6/21/50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/20/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>WALTER W. SMART, JR.</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

There is no record of the subject making an application for employment during the last two years at any of the plants of the Eastman Kodak Company in Rochester, New York or at any of the Eastman Kodak Processing Laboratories, including those outside Rochester, New York, nor is there any record of his ever having been employed at any of these places.

- RUC -

**DETAILS:**

Mrs. VELMA MC CALL, Industrial Relations Department, Eastman Kodak Company, Kodak Park, Rochester, New York, said the Eastman Kodak Company does not retain applications for employment for over two years if the person is not accepted for employment. She said there was no such application for the subject nor was there any record of his ever having been employed by the Eastman Kodak Company at the Kodak Park Plant, the Hawkeye Works Plant, the Camera Works Plant, the Navy Ordnance Plant, the Main Office or at any of the Processing Laboratories, including those outside of Rochester, New York.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION

TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES  <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">65-59181-40</div>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 2 - Philadelphia 2 - Buffalo	<div style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">RECORDED 39</div>

BU 65-1991

REFERENCE:

Albany teletype to Buffalo dated 6/19/50.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PHILADELPHIA**

BU FILE NO. **65-1991** CPH

REPORT MADE AT <b>BUFFALO, NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6/21/60</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/20/60</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>WALTER W. SMART, JR.</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

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- RUC -

**DETAILS:**

Mrs. VELMA MC CALL, Industrial Relations Department, Eastman Kodak Company, Kodak Park, Rochester, New York, said the Eastman Kodak Company does not retain applications for employment for over two years if the person is not accepted for employment. She said there was no such application for the subject nor was there any record of his ever having been employed by the Eastman Kodak Company at the Kodak Park Plant, the Hawkeye Works Plant, the Camera Works Plant, the Navy Ordnance Plant, the Main Office or at any of the Processing Laboratories, including those outside of Rochester, New York.

**REFERRED UPON COMPLETION**

**TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 1 - Philadelphia 2 - Buffalo			

EU 65-1991

REFERENCE:

Albany teletype to Buffalo dated 6/19/50.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PHILADELPHIA**

BU FILE NO. **65-1977 CPH**

REPORT MADE AT <b>BUFFALO, NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6/21/60</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/20/60</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>WALTER W. SMART, JR.</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

There is no record of the subject making an application for employment during the last two years at any of the plants of the Eastman Kodak Company in Rochester, New York or at any of the Eastman Kodak Processing Laboratories, including those outside Rochester, New York, nor is there any record of his ever having been employed at any of these places.

- RUC -

**DETAILS:**

Mrs. VELMA MC CALL, Industrial Relations Department, Eastman Kodak Company, Kodak Park, Rochester, New York, said the Eastman Kodak Company does not retain applications for employment for over two years if the person is not accepted for employment. She said there was no such application for the subject nor was there any record of his ever having been employed by the Eastman Kodak Company at the Kodak Park Plant, the Hawkeye Works Plant, the Camera Works Plant, the Navy Ordnance Plant, the Main Office or at any of the Processing Laboratories, including those outside of Rochester, New York.

**REFERRED UPON COMPLETION**

**TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED 	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 1 - Philadelphia 2 - Buffalo			

SAC, Philadelphia

June 21, 1950

Director, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Reurtel June 18 last and Buretel June 20, concerning the possibility that Unknown Subject Roberts is identical with Dr. Gregory Iverich Rabinovitch.

Transmitted herewith is one copy of each of the following reports containing pertinent information regarding Rabinovitch:

Report of SA William J. McCarthy dated March 15, 1949, at New York

Report of SA William J. McCarthy, Jr., dated May 25, 1949, at New York

Report of SA William J. McCarthy, Jr., dated November 21, 1947, at New York

Report of SA Donald G. Manning dated January 30, 1950, at Washington, D. C.

Report of SA William J. McCarthy, Jr., dated January 31, 1950, at New York

Report of SA Donald G. Manning dated March 30, 1950, at Washington, D. C.

Report of SA Rex I. Schrader dated April 17, 1950, at New York

Report of SA Donald G. Manning dated May 16, 1950, at Washington, D. C.

RECORDED - 39

JUN 28 1950  
80

Attachment

ETB:dmd

65-5918141

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

June 19, 1950

DIRECTOR, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

Reference is made to my memorandum to you dated June 18, 1950. As you are aware, this memorandum to you was delivered by Mr. Ladd and Mr. Belmont to Mr. Molnarney and Mr. Shearty, and it was their opinion that there was not sufficient evidence at this time on which to proceed against Black. It was their recommendation that the questioning of Black should be discontinued during the day of June 16, 1950, because of the length of time which had elapsed during which Black had been talking to our Agents.

For your information, at approximately 7:00 PM on June 16, 1950, the interview with Black was terminated, at which time Black was taken to his home by our Philadelphia Agents.

Subsequently, at 1:45 AM on June 17, 1950, Black telephonically contacted our Newark Office from the Pennsylvania Railroad Station in Newark, at which time he requested that he not be picked up for interview on Monday morning upon his return to Philadelphia. He stated that he wished to come to the Philadelphia office at his convenience during the early part of the week because he had obligations to his job and wanted to be rested.

In view of the fact that it is the opinion of Mr. Molnarney and Mr. Shearty that insufficient evidence is available at this time on which to proceed against Black, and in view of their opinion that the interview should be terminated, it is requested that you advise (and if possible, as to whether further interviews with Black are desirable, and also wherein the evidence obtained against Black, as reflected in my earlier memorandum, is insufficient.

RECEIVED  
JUN 21 1950  
FBI  
DIRECTOR

CC: James M. Molnarney  
Assistant Attorney General

65-59181-42

RJL:ho

65-59181

✓  
Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

TELETYPE  
JUNE 19, 1950

WASH 37 PHILA 5 FROM NEW YORK

19

11-00 P

DIRECTOR AND SAC

URGENT

FERDINAND PHILLIP HELLER, WAS., ESP-R. RE PHILADELPHIA TEL JUNE SEVENTEEN LAST. REINTERVIEW WITH VERA KANE FAILED TO PRODUCE ANY VERIFICATION OF THE STORIES OF BLACK OR HELLER. VERA KANE DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF THE ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES OF HELLER OR BLACK. KANE SAID SHE DID NOT RECALL HARRY GOLD AT ALL. SHE SAID SHE DID NOT RECALL THAT BLACK DISCUSSED WITH HER ANY OFFER TO GO TO MEXICO IN CONNECTION WITH TROTSKYITE PENETRATION BY THE COMMUNISTS. SHE SAID SHE MIGHT HAVE DONE SOME TYPING FOR BLACK OR HELLER BUT WAS CERTAIN SHE NEVER TYPED ANY NOPCO REPORTS OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT. KANE SAID SHE KEPT DIARIES ALMOST CONTINUOUSLY SINCE THE EARLY NINETEEN THIRTIES. THE DIARIES WERE WRITTEN IN HER OWN PECULIAR AND OBSOLETE STYLE OF SHORTHAND, SHE SAID, AND FURTHERMORE SHE STATED SHE WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO TURN THEM OVER BUT WOULD SEARCH THROUGH THEM TO REFRESH HER RECOLLECTION CONCERNING HELLER, BLACK, ET AL. KANE WILL BE RECONTACTED RELATIVE TO THESE DIARIES. INTERVIEW TODAY NECESSARILY BRIEF DUE TO KANE'S EMPLOYMENT IN THE LAW OFFICE WHICH SHE SAID REQUIRES ABOUT SIXTEEN HOURS OF HER TIME DAILY. NINETEEN THIRTY FOUR MANHATTAN VOTERS RECORDS REFLECT THAT AGNES V. KAINS OR KAINS REGISTERED FROM FIVE TEN HUDSON ST., NYC. NINETEEN THIRTY FIVE AND THIRTY SIX VOTERS REGISTRATION REFLECTS REGISTRATION OF DAVID AND SYLVIA

END PAGE ONE

65-59181-✓  
NOT RECORDED  
JUL 24 1950

PAGE TWO

SHNIAD OR SCHNIAD FROM FIVE TEN HUDSON ST. ABOVE UNDOUBTEDLY IDENTICAL WITH AGNES, DAVID AND SYLVIA MENTIONED BY HELLER. VOTERS RECORDS REFLECT REGISTRATION OF FERDINAND HELLER AND ALBERT DEW IN NINETEEN THIRTY FIVE AND OF DEW IN THIRTY SIX AT THIS ADDRESS. FILES OF THIS OFFICE INDICATE DAVID AARON

SHNIAD AND SYLVIA SHNIAD NEE SCHNEIDER BOTH CP MEMBERS. AS OF SEPTEMBER TEN, NINETEEN FORTY NINE DAVID SHNIAD WAS LISTED AT SIX ONE ZERO ZERO TUESDALE AVE., NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CALIF. ~~HE WAS SUBJECT~~

~~IN S-C~~ CASE LA OFFICE. FORMER CI ~~REDACTED~~ FURNISHED INFO

B7D

ON APRIL TWENTY SEVEN, NINETEEN FORTY NINE THAT ONE AGNES KATIS, ADDRESS UNKNOWN, WAS KNOWN TO INFORMANT AS A CP MEMBER. ONE AGNES V. KATIS WAS REPORTED IN JULY NINETEEN FORTY TO BE RESIDING AT THIRTY SIX FOUR WEST EIGHTEENTH ST., APT TWO K, NYC, AND WIFE OF ONE FRANK IBANEZ. ONLY FRANK IBANEZ LISTED LATEST NY TEL DIRECTORY IS AT THREE TWO ZERO WEST TWENTY SEVENTH ST., NYC.

SCHNIAD

BOTH HOLD PAS

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN - 4 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

WASHINGTON 1 NEW YORK 1 NEWARK 1 FROM PHILADELPHIA 6-4-50

DIRECTOR AND SAC-S DEFERRED 4-23 PM MPH

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS, ESP-R. RENVTEL JUNE THIRD. EXAMINATION OF MATERIAL SEIZED AS RESULT OF SEARCH OF HARRY GOLD-S RESIDENCE REVEALS A REPORT BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN PREPARED BY GOLD ON HIS VISIT TO TOM BLACK IN HOSPITAL AT KEARNEY, N.J. IN WHICH GOLD MENTIONES BLACK AS QUOTE OUR MUTUAL FRIEND UNQUOTE. ANOTHER REPORT STATED THAT BLACK TOLD GOLD THAT SEVERAL MEMBERS OF QUOTE ORG. UNQUOTE HAD BEEN TO SEE HIM. GOLD GAVE EXPLICIT INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO VISIT BLACK AND WHEN, AND EVEN SUGGESTED CONTACT A. M. SINCE FELLOW EMPLOYEE WAS LIKELY TO VISIT HIM IN AFTERNOON. IN REPORT GOLD SUGGESTED THAT THEY TAKE PENNA. RR TRAIN TO NEWARK AND THEN A TAXI INSTEAD OF BUS WHICH WOULD BE AN HOUR RIDE. NEWARK OFFICE CAN SECURE IDENTITY OF INSURANCE CARRIER FROM HOSPITAL RECORDS OR AT STATE WORKMEN-S COMPENSATION EITHER AT NEWARK OR TRENTON. ASCERTAIN INDIVIDUALS, TO WHOM BLACK REPORTEDLY SUBLET APARTMENT IN NINETEEN FORTY-EIGHT. CHECK EMPLOYERS, RENTAL AGENCY AND CREDIT RECORDS FOR BANKING CONNECTIONS OF BLACK. IF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS LOCATED SUBMIT COMPLETE DETAILS TO PHILA. INTERVIEW OWNERS OF HOLBROOK MFG. CO. AND SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL AT NOPCO FOR ALL INFORMATION REGARDING BLACK-S ACTIVITIES DURING NINETEEN TWENTY-NINE TO NINETEEN FORTY-FOUR. IMPERATIVE THAT PHIL. HAVE COMPLETE DETAILS IN THIS REGARD PRIOR TO INTERVIEW.

CORNELIUS

END

53 JUL 18 1950

PH R 8

EX - 25

JUN 21 1950

JUN 21 1950

165-59181-43

RECORDED

Handwritten signature and initials

JUL 16 1950

65-59181-44  
CHANGED TO  
100-365040-130

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN - 4 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Gandy	

EBN  
Hemphill

BUREAU 2, NEW YORK 2 NEWARK 2 FROM PHILADELPHIA 4 7-56 PM

DIRECTOR, SACS U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP. R. HARRY GOLD IN INTERVIEW THIS DAY SUPPLIED THE FOLLOWING SIGNED STATEMENT CONCERNING THE ACTIVITIES OF THOMAS L. BLACK. THIS STATEMENT WAS IN ADDITION TO GOLDS STATEMENT OF JUNE SECOND, NINETEEN FIFTY. QUOTE. SOMETIME IN EARLY NINETEEN FORTY TWO, THE SOVIET UNION WAS INTERESTED IN GETTING INFORMATION ON PENICILLIN, I BELIEVE, AND BLACK WAS ATTEMPTING TO GET THIS INFORMATION FOR THE SOVIET UNION. IT IS MY IMPRESSION THAT FROM TALKS I HAD WITH BLACK THAT DURING THE EARLY NINETEEN FORTIES BLACK IN GENERAL WAS ENGAGED IN OBTAINING INFORMATION ON BIOLOGICALS FOR THE SOVIET UNION. IN THIS CONNECTION, BLACK TOOK TRIPS TO PITTSBURGH, PENNA. NEW CASTLE, DEL., AND CHICAGO, ILL. HE TURNED OVER THE INFORMATION HE RECEIVED ON THESE TRIPS TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOVIET UNION, IN NEW YORK CITY. ON OCCASIONS IT WAS NECESSARY FOR ME TO BORROW MONEY IN ORDER TO FINANCE MY ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES. ON OCCASION I WOULD BORROW THIS MONEY FROM BLACK, SINCE HE WOULD NOT ASK ANY QUESTIONS AS TO WHY I NEEDED IT. BLACK KNEW THAT I WAS ENGAGED IN SOVIET ESPIONAGE. I TOLD BLACK IN NINETEEN FORTY FIVE THAT I HAD BEEN TO THE SOUTHWESTERN PART OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONNECTION WITH MY ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF OF THE SOVIET UNION, AND TOLD HIM THAT I WAS HAVING TROUBLE GETTING TIME OFF TO MAKE MY SECOND TRIP TO THE SOUTHWEST. BLACK KNEW THAT THIS WAS AN IMPORTANT ASSIGNMENT THAT I WAS ON, BUT HE KNEW NO

END PAGE ONE

COPIES DESTROYED  
R 47 NOV 21 1950

65-59181-45

PAGE TWO

DDetails whatever. As I recall, it was on a Friday in February of this year that Klaus Fuchs name appeared in the papers with the news of his arrest in England. On the following Monday, I met Tom Black, and we went for a walk. During this walk I told Black that I was the person to whom Fuchs gave information for transfer to the Soviets. Black and I then decided that in the future we would meet only at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia. This arrangement was agreed upon by both of us, since there would be no suspicion attached to our meeting at this place. This arrangement was made so that if I was picked up, Black would not be discovered. Also, at the time that I told Black about my connection with Klaus Fuchs, he was horror stricken, but he did not express any concern at being himself implicated or involved because of his known friendship for me, his principal concern seemed to be for my welfare. UNQUOTE. The original of this statement is being maintained in the Phila. office and copies are being forwarded to the Bureau and New York.

CORNELIUS

END

NK AK AND HENRY DISC WA AND NY HOLD

PH R 2 NK JMM

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 10 1950

TELETYPE

WASH 3 NEW YORK 5 AND NEWARK 1 FROM PHILA 6-10-50 6.32 PM EDST

DIRECTOR AND SACS

THOMAS L. BLACK WAS., ESPIONAGE - R. PHILA SURVEILLANCE INDICATED ONLY NORMAL ACTIVITY. SUBJECT DEPARTED PHILA ON PENNA RAILROAD AT FOUR TWELVE PM EDST, WITH ROUND TRIP COACH TICKET TO NEWARK. DUE TO ARRIVE NEWARK FIVE TWENTY THREE PM EDST. SUBJECT ACCOMPANIED BY THREE AGENTS OF PHILA OFFICE AND NEWARK ADVISED. NEWARK SUBMIT DAILY TELETYPE SUMMARY OF SURVEILLANCE AND ADVISE PHILA OF TIME OF RETURN.

CORNELIUS

END

ACK IN ORDER PLS

WAPH R 3 WA CW

NY PH R 5 NY HFA

NK PH R 1 NK RG

DISC PLS

RECORDED - 33

65-59181-47



Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	11-35A
Miss Gandy	_____

WASHINGTON 3 NEW YORK 3 AND PHILADELPHIA 2 FROM NEWARK

DIRECTOR AND SACS DEFERRED

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS, ESP-R. SUBJECT REMAINED ALL SATURDAY NIGHT AND SUNDAY MORNING AT ONE SEVEN SEVEN E. RAILWAY AVE., PATERSON, N.J. APPARENTLY ALONE, UNTIL HE WALKED TO NEARBY MADISON PLAZA DINER FOR BREAKFAST AT EIGHT TWENTY A.M. SUNDAY AND RETURNED TO ONE SEVEN SEVEN E. RAILWAY AVE, FORTY FIVE MINUTES LATER WITHOUT CONTACTING ANYONE. SURVEILLANCE CONTINUING.

MCKEE

ACK PLS

PA

PH NK R 2 PH

NY NK R3 NYETM

WA NK R 3 WA LIR

DIC

RECORDED - 39

65-59181-48

*Rec'd 5:15 AM  
6-11-50 N.A. B.K.*

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASHINGTON 2 NEW YORK 2 PHILADELPHIA 1 FROM NEWARK

11

4-25AM

DIRECTOR AND SACS

DEFERRED

*Robt. T. Lee*

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS, ESP-R. SURVEILLANCE OF SUBJECT TAKEN OVER FROM PHILADELPHIA AGENTS AT FIVE TWENTY THREE PM ON JUNE TEN AT PENN RR STATION, NEWARK. SUBJECT PROCEEDED BY BUS TO ONE SEVEN SEVEN EAST RAILWAY AVENUE, PATERSON, N.J. SUBJECT SPENT REST OF EVENING DOING ODD JOBS AROUND THIS ADDRESS. SUBJECT CEASED OUTSIDE ACTIVITY AT NINE THIRTY PM AND WENT INSIDE BUILDING AND DID NOT REAPPEAR.

MCKEE

END ACK AND DISC

WA NK R-2 WA DW

NY NK R2 NY FEC

PH NK R 1 PH JFG

RECORDED - 39

*412*

65-59181-49

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 12 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASHINGTON 1 NEW YORK 1 PHILADELPHIA 1 FROM NEWARK

DIRECTOR AND SACS DEFERRED

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS, ESP-R. SUBJECT REMAINED AT ONE SEVEN SEVEN EAST RAILWAY AVENUE, PATERSON, N.J. DURING DAY ON JUNE ELEVEN. HE WAS VISITED BY MAN DRIVING FORTY NINE MERCURY REGISTERED TO PAUL DITTMAN, SIX THREE MAIN STREET, GARFIELD, N.J., FOR ABOUT THIRTY FIVE MINUTES IN MORNING AND FORTY MINUTES IN AFTERNOON. DITTMAN ASSOCIATED WITH SPRUCE CHEMICAL COMPANY AT ABOVE ADDRESS. JACOB FASS ARRIVED AT BUILDING AT ELEVEN AM AND STAYED ALL DAY. SUBJECT AND FASS RODE BUS FROM PATERSON TO PENN RR STATION IN NYC AT SIX PM ON JUNE ELEVEN WHERE THEY ATE DINNER AND ATTENDED MOVIE. SUBJECT DEPARTED NYC ON PENN RR AT TEN PM EDST ACCOMPANIED BY TWO AGENTS OF NEWARK OFFICE. DUE TO ARRIVE NORTH PHILA AT ELEVEN THIRTY FIVE PM EDST. PHILA ADVISED BY PHONE.

MCKEE

END ACK AND DISC

W32282R2128

JUN 12 1950

NY NK R 1 EK

PH NK R 1 PH AAB

RECORDED - 39

INDEXED - 39

JUN 12 1950

65-59181-50  
EC Mr. Lammie

JUN 15 3 50 PM '50

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

FROM : MR. C. E. HENNRICH

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 12, 1950

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor James Goins called from Philadelphia at 2:10 P.M. today. I then talked with SA William Welte. He advised that the surveillance of the above individual had been going smoothly until last night and today, and that the subject has now become very surveillance conscious. He said, however, he does not believe the subject is aware of the surveillance being conducted.

Welte stated that the Newark Office, in their surveillance of the subject over the week-end, took him to a movie in New York, "The Third Man." This is a spy picture and the picture, among other things, relates devious methods of avoiding surveillances, etc. Since that time the subject has been doubling. In Newark he got off one train and on another. In Philadelphia today he has an automobile for the first time since the surveillance has been on and he has been traveling slowly, going to infrequently traveled areas, and parking along the street waiting to see if other cars are following him.

Welte said that the Philadelphia Office wanted the Bureau to know of this development, particularly in view of the fact that interviews with Black have been recommended by the Philadelphia Office.

I told Welte and also Supervisor Goins that they should continue the surveillance of Black, handling it as a loose surveillance as they have during the past several days, and that since they do not now feel that he has become specifically aware of the surveillance being conducted, there appears to be no reason why he should become aware of it if it is discreetly handled. I told them that the matter of interviewing Black is being considered, together with other pending interviews of other subjects which have evolved from the Gold case, and that the Philadelphia Office will be informed as soon as a decision is reached as to when the interviews will take place.

## ACTION:

None. For your information.

53 JUL 12 1950

RECORDED - 83

JUN 20 1950

5

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 14 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

WASHINGTON 10 NEW YORK 3 FROM PHILA 6-14-50

DIRECTOR AND SAC.....U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP - R. REBUTEL THIS DATE ENTITLED HARRY  
GOLD, WAS., ESP R. PHILA WILL INTERVIEW THOMAS L. BLACK, THURSDAY,  
JUNE FIFTEEN NEXT, STARTING AS NEAR TEN AM AS POSSIBLE UACB.

CORNELIUS

RECORDED - 39

BOTH HOLD

53 JUL 12 1950

~~53 JUL 27 1950~~

16

165-59181-52  
JUN 22 1950

cc: Mr. Lamphere

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Belmont	.....
Mr. Mohr	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

WASHINGTON AND WFO 4 FROM PHILADELPHIA 6-7-50 1134 AM

DIRECTOR AND SAC.. U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., TASSO LESSING BLACK, LESSING BLACK, ESP - R.  
 INFO OBTAINED INDICATES SUBJECT-S POSSIBLE INTEREST IN TRAVEL TO  
 POLAND IN NINETEEN FORTYSIX. WFO REQUESTED TO REVIEW RECORDS  
 OF PASSPORT DIV., STATE DEPT., FOR INFO SUBJECT-S POSSIBLE  
 APPLICATION FOR PASSPORT. BLACK BORN JULY FIVE, NINETEEN SEVEN,  
 BLOOMSBURG, PA.

CORNELIUS

1  
 4 END

PH R 4 WA DCL

DSC

RECORDED - 39

TWO COPIES WFO

65-59181-53

5  
 917

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASH 50 PHILA 10 NEWARK 10 FROM NEW YORK 8 452 P

DIRECTOR AND SACS URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP - R. PUBLIC NATIONAL BANK, NYC, HAS NO RECORDS WHICH WOULD IDENTIFY MAKER AND PAYEE OF PUBLIC NATIONAL BANK CHECKS DEPOSITED IN SUBJECT-S ACCOUNT AT INDUSTRIAL TRUST COMPANY, PHILA. LEDGER SHEETS KEPT IN WAREHOUSE BY PUBLIC NATIONAL BANK PRESENTLY BEING CHECKED TO ASCERTAIN IF CHECKS FOR SAME AMOUNTS AS BLACK-S DEPOSITS MAY HAVE BEEN CHARGED TO THE ACCOUNT OF FINE ORGANICS, INC, AT TIME BLACK MADE PHILA DEPOSITS. IF LEDGER SHEETS SHOW SUCH AMOUNTS, BANK ADVISES ONLY RECORD OF PAYEE OF THESE CHECKS WOULD BE AT FINE ORGANICS, INC., AS NO RECORDAK OF CANCELLED CHECKS ARE MAINTAINED AT PUBLIC NATIONAL BANK.

SCHEIDT

END

ACK IN ORD

WA 29

NY R 10 PH LPM

RECORDED - 39

NY R 10 NK RSF

NY R 50 WA LIR

65-59181-54

3  
917



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

Transmit the following message to:

June 26, 1950

SAC, PHILADELPHIA

URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP-R.

REURTEL JUNE SEVENTEEN LAST, TWO AM, PAGE FOUR. CONDUCT APPROPRIATE  
INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE WHETHER DURING PERTINENT PERIOD IN FORTY FIVE  
SORBITAL COULD BE CONSIDERED RESTRICTED INFO AFFECTING NATIONAL DEFENSE OR  
WHETHER IT WAS CONSIDERED INFO IN PUBLIC DOMAIN.

ETD:jam

HOOVER

65-59181

65-59181-55

COPIES DESTROYED  
R 47 NOV 21 1960

RECORDED - 89

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JUN 26 1950

SENT VIA \_\_\_\_\_ M

Per \_\_\_\_\_



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: June 15, 1950

FROM : MR. A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

Tolson	✓
Ladd	✓
Clegg	✓
Glavin	✓
Harbo	✓
Belmont	✓
Mohr	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Nease	✓
Gandy	✓

At 7:25 P.M. on June 15, 1950, SAC Cornelius called from Philadelphia and advised that Black has been doing considerable talking but will not admit that he has engaged in espionage activities. Essentially, Black has stated that he engaged in consultant work for the Soviet Union through Amtorg but did not engage in espionage. Mr. Cornelius advised that the Agents are continuing the interview of Black. He stated that a search of Black's home is in progress but they have not yet been able to start a search of his laboratory in Patterson, New Jersey, inasmuch as Black's associates are not available at the laboratory.

Mr. Cornelius pointed out that the investigation of Black has not been fully opened up as yet in view of the fact that up to now we had not wanted Black to know of our interest in him. I advised Mr. Cornelius that the investigation should be widened immediately and that he should call the appropriate offices and instruct that all angles of the investigation of Black should be pursued at once.

At 10:25 P.M. Mr. Cornelius advised that the Agents are going to discuss with Black whether he desires to remain with them overnight. I advised Mr. Cornelius that he should endeavor to use the same type of permissive statement that was utilized relative to Gold. Mr. Cornelius advised that Black, while talking volubly, had not admitted espionage activities.

At 11:45 P.M. Mr. Cornelius advised that Black continued to talk and has admitted meeting several Russian contacts which the Agents have not yet been able to identify. However, Black still states that his activities were not of an espionage nature. From the statements made by Black, there is no question but that he was engaged in espionage activities although he has not so admitted and there is question so far whether such activities are capable of proof and come within the statute.

Mr. Cornelius was advised to send a detailed teletype tonight setting forth information furnished by Black in order that we may prepare an appropriate memorandum to discuss the activities of Black with the Department in the morning.

Mr. Cornelius advised that Black had expressed the desire to stay

AHB:MEF

RECORDED - 71

EX-34

JUN 20 1950

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in a hotel with the Agents overnight and had signed a written request to this effect along identical lines with the request of Harry Gold. I instructed Mr. Cornelius to take Black to the hotel and see that he got sufficient sleep; that an appropriate log was kept properly; and that the Agents remain awake all night to see that his activities were noted. Mr. Cornelius advised that Black would be taken to the Benjamin Franklin Hotel and that the two Agents who interviewed him would sleep while two additional Agents would remain awake all night.

Attached is a memorandum reflecting information concerning the available knowledge of the activities of Thomas L. Black in order that these activities may be discussed with the Department. You will note that a portion of this memorandum deals with the admission of Black that he had knowledge that Harry Gold was the American contact of Fuchs but failed to inform authorities of this knowledge.

See that case is promptly  
considered by Dept of  
Approved Black is im-  
mediately assigned. We  
cannot afford to hold him.

memo to  
AG 4/4/50  
Q

H.

The Attorney General

June 16, 1950

The Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THOMAS LESSING BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

65-59181-56

RECORDED - 71

EX-134

You will recall that in his signed statement dated May 22, 1950, Harry Gold declared that he originally became involved in Soviet espionage in 1936, when one "Paul Smith" called at his residence in Philadelphia and succeeded in recruiting Gold to furnish industrial information to him for the benefit of the USSR. On subsequent interviews, however, Gold has admitted that he, in fact, was recruited into Soviet espionage by Thomas L. Black, a chemist whom he has known since 1933.

During the course of investigation by this Bureau, immediately after Gold's confession on May 22, 1950, it was established that during the period of several weeks immediately prior to May 22, 1950, Gold had been in very intimate contact with Black. Background investigation of Black disclosed that he was born on July 5, 1907, in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, was a bacteriological chemist, and that he was employed by the Charles W. Berg Laboratories, 1827 North Fifth Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Black was interviewed by Bureau agents on May 31, 1950, and listed his present residence as 1929 North Sixth Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He admitted acquaintanceship with Gold since 1933, said he considered Gold to be a fine, upstanding chemist, and that he never had any reason to doubt Gold's loyalty. Black admitted on this occasion that from 1933 until 1936 or 1937, while residing in Jersey City, New Jersey, he was a member of the Communist Party, but said he had no knowledge of Gold's ever being a member of the Communist Party or interested in Communist matters. Black said Gold succeeded him in the position of chemist with the Holbrook Manufacturing Company, Jersey City, New Jersey, in 1933, and that he saw Gold only infrequently from 1935 until 1945, from which time to date he has seen Gold often and has become well-acquainted with Gold's family. He claimed to have no knowledge concerning travel on the part of Gold except one business trip to Brooklyn, New York.

On June 2, 1950, Gold furnished a signed statement in which he declared that Black had attempted to persuade him to join the Communist Party in 1933, that Black had asked him if he could get information during the course of his employment with the Pennsylvania Sugar Company which might be of interest to the Russians, and that Black at that time told Gold he had been giving to the Russians chemical processes secured by Black in the course of his employment with the National Oil Products Company. Gold declared further in this signed

Tolson  
Ladd  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Nichols  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Harbo  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Tele. Room  
Nease  
Gandy

JMK:jo

DECLASSIFIED  
ON 12-2-78

statement that he and Black had several discussions in 1935 concerning the supplying of information to the Russians and including discussions on how the material to be supplied could be blueprinted and photostated. He also set out that in the latter part of 1935, Black introduced Gold to his first Russian contact, one "Paul Smith" in New York City, and that in his subsequent association with this Soviet contact, continuing until the early part of 1937, Gold furnished him information on chemical processes. Gold continued to see Black on infrequent occasions after the meeting with "Paul Smith," and declared that sometime later, Black described his own Russian contact to Gold, who recognized the contact as being identical with "Sam" (Semen H. Semenov). Gold declared that from what Black told him, Black's last contact with the Russians was sometime in 1944.

On June 4, 1950, Gold furnished a second signed statement concerning the espionage activities of Black. In this statement, Gold declared that sometime in early 1942, the Soviet Union was interested in getting information on penicillin, and Black was attempting to secure such data for the USSR. Gold declared it is his impression, gained from conversations he had with Black, that during the early 1940's, Black generally was engaged in obtaining information on biologicals for the Soviet Union, and that he made trips to various cities in the United States for that purpose, turning over the information he received on such trips to representatives of the Soviet Union in New York City. Gold also declared in this statement that on occasion, it was necessary for him to borrow money in order to finance his espionage activities, and that sometimes he would borrow sums from Black since the latter would not ask why Gold needed funds. Gold declared that Black knew Gold was engaged in Soviet espionage, and furthermore, that in 1945, Gold told Black he had been to the Southwestern part of the United States in connection with his activities on behalf of the USSR, and also told Black he was planning to make a second trip to the Southwest. Gold declared also in this statement that Black knew that Gold's assignment at that time was important but knew no details concerning it. Gold also declared that as he now recalls it, it was on a Friday in February, 1950, that Fuchs' name appeared in the press with the story of his arrest in England. On the following Monday, Gold continued, he met Black, and while they were walking together, Gold told Black that he was the person to whom Fuchs gave information for transmittal to the Soviets. Black and Gold then decided that in the future, they would meet only at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia since there would be no suspicion attached to their meeting at that place, and that by such an arrangement, Black would not be discovered in the event Gold were "picked up."

On June 5, 1950, Gold furnished an additional statement concerning Black. In this statement, Gold declared that when he told Black he had

received data from Fuchs, he also told Black he had visited Fuchs' sister in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and that she could probably identify him. According to Gold, Black responded that if he were picked up and questioned, he would deny everything because it would be his word against that of another. Gold said he also told Black that Fuchs had known him well and could positively identify him, and that Black was well aware of the gravity of the situation. Gold further stated, "We even discussed the possibility that Fuchs might be brought to the United States to stand trial and would point me out in a court of law. Here again, Black told me that while that would be very bad, still, it was essentially only Fuchs' word against mine."

Examination of birth records at Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, verified the birth of Black on July 5, 1907, and disclosed that his father was Alfred Bruce Black, who died about 1925, and his mother was Mary Helen Williams Black, who was believed also to be deceased. He was graduated from Bloomsburg High School in 1925, and attended Penn State College, State College, Pennsylvania, from 1925 to 1929. Records of the Court of Common Pleas, Union County, Elizabeth, New Jersey, reflect that Black changed his name from Tasso Lessing Black to Thomas Lessing Black on December 22, 1930. He was employed as a chemist by the American Cyanamide Corporation from June 24, 1929, to May 15, 1930, and was subsequently employed as a chemist by the Holbrook Manufacturing Company, Jersey City, New Jersey, which position he resigned in 1933. As stated previously in this memorandum, Gold took over this position on Black's resignation. Black was employed as a chemist by the National Oil Products Company, Harrison, New Jersey, from February 20, 1933, until June 30, 1944, when he was discharged for falsification of reports. In addition to his present employment with the Charles W. Berg Laboratories, Black is employed in a consultant capacity with the Spruce Chemical Company, 117 East Railway Avenue, Paterson, New Jersey.

On reinterview on June 15, 1950, Black admitted in a signed statement to Bureau agents that he has been a close acquaintance of Harry Gold since 1933, and that pursuant to a telephone call from Gold in early February, 1950, after the arrest of Fuchs, he met Gold and the latter told him that he had been Fuchs' American contact. Black declared further in this statement that Gold told him that if he should be caught, he was going to take an overdose of sleeping tablets, and that Black attempted to persuade Gold not to commit suicide. Black admitted that he knew Gold traveled to New York occasionally without any apparent business, and that he also knew that Gold made a trip to Albuquerque, New Mexico, sometime before the test atomic bomb was exploded. He said he knew Gold made that trip because Gold telephoned him from Albuquerque asking Black to telegraph him some funds, which Black did not do because he did not have the money at the time. Black declared

he had no knowledge at that time of the reason for Gold's trip to Albuquerque. Black declared further in this statement that "I fully realize that I had certain responsibilities as a citizen to inform the proper authorities of his statement. The reason that I did not inform anyone was that I was frankly very scared at the time and I did not want to become involved if it could be avoided. Also, it is a very difficult decision to be forced to make as to whether or not I should give any information told to me in confidence which would jeopardize a friend of very long standing. In retrospect, I very deeply regret that I did not at that time come forward with the information which would have aided in Harry's apprehension. If I can be of any further assistance to the FBI, in this or other matters, I am willing to cooperate." He also recited in this statement that "I knew from the newspapers that Klaus Fuchs had been arrested in England for the transmission of A-Bomb secrets to the Soviet Union. Harry Gold told me that he had been the contact man between Fuchs and a Soviet agent in transmitting these secrets."

In addition to the foregoing information furnished during reinterview on June 15, 1950, Black admitted to agents that he had several meetings in 1933 or 1934 with Gail Ovakimian, then an official of Amtorg in New York City and who was apprehended by agents of this Bureau in 1941 and immediately thereafter returned to Russia. Black contended that he and Ferdinand P. Heller told Ovakimian they desired to go to Russia as chemists, and that the meetings between him and Ovakimian were for the purpose of demonstrating Black's ability in chemistry by providing answers to problems propounded by Ovakimian.

Black also admitted that in 1934 and 1935, he met one Paul Petersen and furnished technical information to him in return for which he accepted gifts of books but no money. Black declared Petersen requested him to act as a courier but that he refused and then dropped out of the Communist Party to avoid contact with Soviet agents. He then joined the Trotskyites in Newark, New Jersey. In early 1936, Petersen introduced Black to a new contact whom Black identified as "George," and the latter attempted to secure information from Black regarding the Trotskyites, as did "John," Black's next Russian contact whom he met in 1939. "John" subsequently introduced Black to another contact named "Jack," who instructed Black to secure a position at the Kellogg Company, saying that something "big" was under way at Kellogg. As you know, this concern was a prime contractor in the Manhattan Project. Black claims he never followed the instruction to go with Kellogg and had no contact with Soviet agents for approximately a year thereafter, at which time Black furnished a detailed written report to "Jack" on the manufacturing of penicillin. According to Black, he next

heard from "Jack" in 1948, at which time he met "Jack" in front of Macy's Department Store in New York City and "Jack" told Black he wanted him to work for the Soviet Union. Black contends he told "Jack" he would do legitimate consulting work for Amtorg but would not do espionage work.

Throughout interviews to date, Black has insisted that he found himself in an activity from which he could not escape and that he was continually threatened by his various contacts. He further claims that fear kept him from making an open break and that he concentrated on trying to discourage his Soviet contacts and to avoid carrying out assignments.

For your information, Special Agents of the Philadelphia Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation questioned Black in the office throughout June 15, 1950. He expressed a desire to remain with Agents of this Bureau until he had furnished all information in his possession. As a consequence, he has spent the night at a Philadelphia hotel with Special Agents of this Bureau and questioning will be resumed this morning at the Philadelphia Office. It is apparent that Black has not accurately given full information concerning his activities up to the present time. Your attention is called to the fact that Black has admitted knowledge of Gold's activities as the American contact of Dr. Fuchs and that Gold furnished information on atomic energy matters to his Russian contacts which he had obtained from Fuchs. Black further admits that he had possession of this knowledge in February, 1950, and failed to furnish the information to appropriate authorities. This may constitute misprision of felony.

Additional pertinent information in this matter will be furnished to you when it becomes available.

cc - Assistant Attorney General  
James P. McInerney, Criminal Division



Assistant Attorney General James H. McInerney  
Criminal Division

Director, FBI

Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Hennrich  
Mr. Laughery  
Mr. Bird

June 26, 1950

THOMAS LEONARD BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DECLASSIFIED BY 4913 PAF/AR  
ON 1-28-78

RECORDED - 83

65-59181-51

Reference is made to my memorandum of June 16, 1950, to the Attorney General setting out information developed up to that time concerning the above-captioned subject. In your reply of June 20, 1950, you requested further information obtained as a result of our investigation upon which a basis for prosecution might be established.

In an interview on June 15, 1950, Harry Gold stated that during 1940 Black received information concerning a rust proofing compound being worked on by the American Chemical Paint Company which Black furnished to a Soviet agent. Gold said Black received the information from Ferdinand Phillip Keller, a chemist employed by the American Chemical Paint Company, who was a friend of Black. Gold related that Keller kept annoying Black by volunteering on frequent occasions to supply information to Black. In this regard, Gold stated Black once told him, Gold, that the Soviets were not receptive to those who sought to volunteer information but preferred to select their own sources of information. Gold believes Black reported on Keller to the Soviets and made an unfavorable recommendation.

Some time around 1940, according to Gold, Black displayed an increasing dislike for his own work in behalf of the Soviets, brought about, Gold said by Black's assignment to report on the Trotskyites. Gold said Black was further irritated by his abortive attempt to gain certain biologicals from the University of Pennsylvania Hospital. In this regard, Gold stated Black suggested to him that Gold be alert for some ideas which the two of them could use in a legitimate business if either or both should come under serious suspicion and lose their jobs.

Gold related that at times when he and Black would become weary and depressed, Black frequently commented that people sometimes are apprehended as a result of some incident which they themselves consider as very trivial and not likely to be detected. At such times Black would admonish Gold to the effect that they would not find any rest until they were in their graves.

Gold further informed that during 1936 or 1937 he and Black rented a room at the Cartaret Hotel in New York City using false names. There the two of them spent about a day and a half sawing 6 aluminum alloy angle irons in which they drilled holes for assembly into a small rectangular suitcase which was fitted to hold an ultra-violet ray lamp. The purpose of the whole device was for reading hidden messages. Gold informed Black had been instructed by his Soviet superiors to construct this device.

MAILED 17  
JUN 27 1950  
COMM. FBI

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CH AIR



It is Gold's belief that Black ceased his Soviet espionage activities several years ago but he is of the opinion that the termination was initiated by the Soviets rather than by Black, because of the admissions made by Whittaker Chambers as to his own espionage activities. Gold pointed out Black had told him he was well known to Chambers as Thomas Black. For your information, Chambers to date has been unable to identify photographs of Black.

(Philadelphia teletype 6/15/50, 8:45 P.M.)

When interviewed on June 16, 1950, by Bureau Agents at Philadelphia, Black maintained that he did not act as an intermediary for the Soviets except as follows.

Black told of having visited Dr. Earl William Floedorff, bacteriologist at the University of Pennsylvania, in about 1939 to ascertain if Floedorff was willing to cooperate with Amtorg as he had previously done. Floedorff was agreeable and Black reported this to his Soviet contact, "Jack." Black stated it is his opinion that Floedorff's contact with Amtorg was legitimate and that he was not engaged in espionage activities.

(Phil. teletypes 6/16/50, 1:45 A.M.; 6/17/50, 2:00 A.M.; 6/18/50, 6:13 P.M.)

Black in relating the only other occasion on which he acted as an intermediary for the Soviets told that in 1945 "Jack" arranged for him to meet William Stapler, who used the name "Bob," and who was employed as a chemist by the Hercules Powder Company, Wilmington, Delaware. "Jack" told Black the Soviets had previously purchased technical information from Stapler in the past and wanted to reestablish contact with him. Upon contacting Stapler, Black was told by him he had not yet been paid for services he had previously performed and until such payment was made he was unwilling to cooperate. Upon reporting this fact to "Jack," the latter gave Black approximately \$100 which Black, according to instructions, delivered to Stapler. "Jack's" instructions were that meetings with Stapler were to be held at the Pennsylvania Railroad Station in Newark, New Jersey. Black advised that he made arrangements through Mrs. Stapler as to the time of such meetings. Black asserted, however, that Stapler never furnished him any information for transmission to the Soviets but that he gave Black for the latter's own personal use a sample of pure resin and literature published by the Hercules Powder Company.

Inquiry of the Hercules Powder Company has reflected that Stapler died in 1947 at Riverdale, New Jersey, while still an employee of that Company and that he did not have access to any information which bore a Government classification.

In the interview on June 16, 1950, Black admitted that in 1934 he furnished to a Soviet contact processes utilized by his employer, the National Oil Products Company (NOPCO) which concerned the sulfonation of oils, textile specialties, and leather oils. Black stated he furnished all material from NOPCO that was available to him.

He asserted that offers were made to him in 1935 and 1936 by his Soviet contacts, Paul Petersen and "Jack," to set him up in business and buy him a car for the purpose of his securing information regarding other industrial plants. Black stated, however, that he did not perform these tasks. Black subsequently identified his contact "Jack" as Joseph Kats.

Black admitted recruiting Harry Gold for Soviet espionage and introducing Gold to Paul Petersen in New York City. Black further admitted that in 1945 he furnished the Soviets with a sample of sorbital which he described as the base for ascorbic acid (Vitamin C) and with his own process for this material.

As noted in my memorandum to the Attorney General dated June 16, 1950, Black when interviewed on June 15, 1950, told of receiving a call from Harry Gold from Albuquerque, New Mexico, asking for funds. Black declared he did not have sufficient funds at that time to accommodate Gold. In this regard, Harry Gold when interviewed on June 17, 1950, related that in September, 1945, while in Chicago, Illinois, he phoned Black who wired him \$20 in response to Gold's request for funds to be sent to Gold in care of the Hilton Hotel, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

(Phila tel 6-17-50, 8:28 PM)

Harry Gold on June 18, 1950, recalled Black's relating to him an assignment Black had received from the Soviets to ascertain the location of a man Black described as Leon Trotsky's principal agent in the United States. Black told Gold of surveillances he had conducted in this regard. Gold also informed that when he and Black were discussing their Russian contacts they determined that both were contacting the same person who was known to Gold as "Sam" (Semen Semenov) and to Black as "George."

(Phila tel 6-18-50, 5:49 PM)

On June 21, 1950, at his request Black was interviewed further. With regard to his joining the Trotskyite movement, Black said he did so partly through his own conviction but mostly to comply with Paul Petersen's suggestion that he join the Trotskyites as an informer for Petersen. Black stated he welcomed this move as a means of escaping from his previous assignment of performing industrial espionage.

Investigation in this matter is continuing and you will be advised of further developments. Your advice is requested as to whether the additional information furnished above in conjunction with the information in my memorandum of June 16 constitutes a basis for prosecutive action.

(Basis for above is review of incoming teletypes entitled, "Thomas L. Black, was., "through Baltimore teletype 6/21/50, 4:13 PM)

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN - 8 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_

6-07 PM

WASH 14 NEW YORK 9 PHILA 2 FROM NEWARK

8

DIRECTOR AND SAC-S

U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP - R. RE PHILA TEL JUNE SIX, FIFTY, AND  
NEWARK TEL JUNE SEVEN, FIFTY. GOTTFRIED ZIEGLER, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CLIFTON, NJ, OPERATES ZIEGLER SHEET METAL WORKS AT  
[REDACTED] ABOVE ADDRESS AND IS OWNER OF PROPERTY AT ONE SEVEN SEVEN EAST RAILWAY  
AVENUE, PATERSON, NJ, WHERE SPRUCE CHEMICAL COMPANY IS LOCATED. PATERSON  
CITY RECORDS REFLECT ZIEGLER MADE APPLICATION FEBRUARY SEVENTEEN,  
FIFTY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ONE STORY CINDER BLOCK WAREHOUSE AT ONE SEVEN  
SEVEN EAST RAILWAY AVENUE TO BE BUILT AT ESTIMATED COST OF TWO THOUSAND  
DOLLARS. HE RECEIVED PERMISSION TO BUILD UNDER PERMIT NO. NINE SIX  
THREE FIVE. INS RECORDS REFLECT ZIEGLER GRANTED U. S. CITIZENSHIP MARCH  
SIX, FORTYFIVE UNDER PETITION NO. THREE FIVE NAUGHT EIGHT SEVEN. HE  
WAS BORN APRIL NINE, EIGHTEEN NINETY SIX AT WURTENBERG, GERMANY, AND  
ENTERED U. S. AT CLIFTON, NJ, OCTOBER, EIGHTEEN NINETY SIX. MARRIED  
ALED A ELVIRA ZIEGLER IN CLIFTON JUNE THIRTY, NINETEEN TWENTY, AND HAS  
ONE CHILD, GOTTFRIED JR. ALED A ZIEGLER BORN DECEMBER ONE, EIGHTEEN  
NINETEEN FOUR AT PASSAIC, NJ. SUBJECT CHANGED NAME FROM TASSO LESSING  
BLACK TO THOMAS LESSING BLACK IN COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, UNION COUNTY,  
ELIZABETH, NJ, ON DECEMBER TWENTYTWO, NINETEEN THIRTY. LISTED ADDRESS

53 JUL 12 1950

END OF PAGE ONE

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65-59181-586

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PAGE TWO

AT THAT TIME AS ONE ONE ONE SIX ANNA STREET, ELIZABETH, NJ. NO SUCH  
NUMBER IN N. J. AS PH SIX DASH THREE THREE EIGHT ONE. CLOSEST SIMILAR  
ITY IS SAME NUMBER PRECEDED BY PREFIX [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

MC KEE

B7C

END AND ACK IN ORDER PLS

WA NK R 14 WA JIM

NY NK R 9 NYC REOT

PH NK R 2 PH LPM

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN - 1 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Gandy	✓

WASHINGTON 13, NEW YORK 10, & NEWARK 3 FROM PHILA. 1

DIRECTOR AND SACS, NEW YORK AND NEWARK - URGENT  
ATTENTION - MR. CARL HENNRICH.

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESPIONAGE-R. INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS INDIVIDUAL HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED IN PHILA. TELETYPE CAPTIONED HARRY GOLD, WAS., ETAL, ESPIONAGE-R, DATED MAY TWENTYFIVE LAST, AND TWO NEWARK TELETYPES CAPTIONED THE SAME, DATED MAY TWENTYSEVEN LAST. PHILA. INQUIRY AT FRANKLIN INSTITUTE REFLECTED THAT THOMAS L. BLACK HAS BEEN NOTICEABLY INTIMATE WITH HARRY GOLD DURING PAST FEW WEEKS. RECORDS FRANKLIN INSTITUTE REFLECT BLACK HAS LIVED AT SEVENTEEN OXFORD ST., NEWARK, AND AS OF MAY NINE LAST FURNISHED ADDRESS OF ONE SEVEN SEVEN EAST RAILWAY AVE., PATERSON, N. J.

NEWARK HAS ADVISED THAT BLACK HAS LIVED AT CHELLIS AUSTIN APARTMENTS, SEVENTEEN OXFORD ST., NEWARK, FROM JULY ONE, THIRTYSEVEN, TO JAN. THIRTYONE, FORTYNINE. HE WAS EMPLOYED AT NATIONAL OIL PRODUCTS CO., HARRISON, N. J., NOW NOPCO CHEMICAL CO., FROM FEB. TWENTY, THIRTYTHREE, AS CHEMIST, AND DISCHARGED JUNE THIRTY, FORTY FOUR, FOR UNSATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE OF DUTY. NEWARK INVESTIGATION REFLECTS A SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO., AT ONE SEVEN SEVEN EAST RAILWAY AVE., PATERSON, N. J. A P. A. DITTMAN AND A MR. FASS ARE ASSOCIATED IN THIS BUSINESS, AND BLACK ONLY USED IN A CONSULTANT CAPACITY. ADDITIONAL PHILA. INQUIRY AT FRANKLIN INSTITUTE REFLECTS THAT GOLD SELDOM SPOKE TO ANYONE AT FRANKLIN INSTITUTE WITH

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INDEXED - 83

RECORDED - 83

65-59181-591

561

PAGE TWO

EXCEPTION OF THOMAS L. BLACK. GOLD AND BLACK HAVE BEEN MEETING IN LIBRARY OF FRANKLIN INSTITUTE ABOUT ONCE EVERY TWO WEEKS SINCE THE FALL OF FORTYNINE. THEY WOULD OCCASIONALLY CALL THE LIBRARY TO CANCEL A MEETING OR LEAVE A CALL FOR THE OTHER PERSON. THE ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN STATES BLACK WAS PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN IN BRITISH PATENTS, AND MAKES INQUIRY ABOUT THEM. THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE LIBRARY RECEIVES ALL BRITISH PATENTS ONCE EVERY YEAR. SHE WAS UNABLE TO EXPLAIN BLACK-S INTEREST IN THESE PATENTS. THE LIBRARY CARD OF BLACK REFLECTED AN ADDRESS CARE OF THE SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO., THIRTY THREE FIFTY SEVEN MILLER ST., PHILA. ON MAY THIRTY ONE, FIFTY, THOMAS L. BLACK INTERVIEWED AT PLACE OF EMPLOY-  
*parent employment - Home* <sup>1827</sup>MENT, THE CHARLES W. BERG LABORATORIES, EIGHTEEN <sup>1929</sup>TWENTY SEVEN NORTH <sup>5th</sup>FIFTH ST., PHILA. BLACK FURNISHED AN ADDRESS OF NINETEEN <sup>6th St.</sup>TWENTY NINE NORTH SIXTH ST. IN PHILA. AS HIS HOME. BLACK SAID THAT HE HAS KNOWN GOLD SINCE NINETEEN THIRTYTHREE AND CONSIDERED HIM A FINE, UPSTANDING CHEMIST, WITH NO REASON TO DOUBT HIS LOYALTY. BLACK ADVISED THAT FROM THIRTYTHREE TO ABOUT THIRTYSIX OR THIRTY SEVEN, WHILE IN JERSEY CITY, HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE CP. BLACK SAID HE WAS ACQUAINTED WITH GOLD AT THAT TIME. HE ALSO ADVISED GOLD TOOK THE POSITION THAT BLACK WAS LEAVING AT THE HOLBROOK

PAGE THREE

MFG. CO. IN JERSEY CITY, N. J. BLACK HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF GOLD EVER BEING A CP MEMBER OR INTERESTED IN COMMUNIST MATTERS. BLACK STATED THAT AFTER THIRTYFIVE HIS MEETINGS WITH GOLD WERE SCATTERED UNTIL JUNE OF FORTYFIVE, WHEN BLACK TOOK A POSITION WITH THE BERG LABORATORIES IN PHILA. BLACK SAID HE WORKED IN PHILA. BUT CONTINUED TO COMMUTE TO HIS RESIDENCE IN JERSEY CITY. IN JUNE OF FORTYFIVE BLACK ADVISED HE RENEWED HIS ACQUAINTANCE WITH GOLD, AND ALSO BECAME ACQUAINTED WITH GOLD-S FAMILY. BLACK ADVISED THE ONLY TRIP HE WAS AWARE OF GOLD MAKING WAS ONE IN SEPTEMBER OR OCT. OF FORTYFIVE, THIS TRIP TO THE HORMANN EQUIPMENT OR MFG. CO. IN BROOKLYN, N. Y. BLACK UNABLE TO PROVIDE MORE SPECIFIC DATES OR DETAILS BUT ADVISED THAT, IF NECESSARY, HE WOULD TESTIFY CONCERNING ABOVE INFORMATION. HE REQUESTED THAT HIS FORMER CP AFFILIATIONS NOT BE BROUGHT OUT. [REDACTED] DURING THE COURSE OF INTERVIEW CONCERNING HARRY GOLD FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CONCERNING THOMAS L. BLACK. [REDACTED] BELIEVED GOLD FIRST BECAME ASSOCIATED WITH ABRAHAM BROTHMAN THROUGH ANOTHER PHILA. CHEMIST, ONE TOM BLACK. BLACK REPORTEDLY HAD DONE WORK FOR BROTHMAN FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS. [REDACTED] WAS UNABLE

b7D



PAGE FOUR

TO FURNISH ANY INFORMATION AS TO BLACK-S COMMUNIST TENDENCIES. HE SAID ON ONE OCCASION TWO OR THREE YEARS AGO, WHILE VISITING BLACK, HE MET ONE JACK ~~FAST~~ IN THE APARTMENT OF BLACK. [REDACTED] WAS OF OPINION THAT FAST MAY HAVE BEEN A COMMUNIST BECAUSE OF CERTAIN REMARKS MADE. NEWARK SHOULD BE AWARE OF POSSIBILITY THAT JACK FAST MAY BE IDENTICAL WITH THE MR. FASS WHO OPERATES SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO. AT PATERSON, N. J. THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION PERTAINS TO THOMAS L. BLACK -- U. S. CITIZEN, FIVE FT. EIGHT AND ONE HALF INCHES TALL TWO HUNDRED TEN LBS., LONG WAVY AUBURN HAIR. HARRY GOLD ADVISED TODAY THAT THOMAS L. BLACK WAS THE INDIVIDUAL WHO INTRODUCED HIM TO PAUL SMITH, GOLD-S FIRST INDUSTRIAL ESPIONAGE CONTACT. NEWARK REQUESTED TO SECURE KNOWN HANDWRITING AND AVAILABLE PHOTOS OF THOMAS L. BLACK MAINTAINED AT NOPCO CHEMICAL CO. THIS MATTER SHOULD RECEIVE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION.

END

CORNELIUS

WA PH 4 Q PH R 13 WA LIR

NY PH R 10 NYCCJJ

NK PH R 3 NK CEG

DISC

670

*Handwritten signature and scribbles*



JUN - 7 1961

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Casper  
Mr. Callahan  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. Felt  
Mr. Gale  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holmes  
Miss Gandy

WASHINGTON 4 NEW YORK 4 PHILA 1 FROM NEWARK

7

4-09 PM

DIRECTOR AND SACS

..... U R G E N T .....

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP - R. RE PHILA TEL JUNE SIX. INVESTIGATION AT AMERICAN CYANAMID CO., WARNER PLANT, LINDEN, NJ, REFLECTS THAT ~~REED~~ ~~REED~~ CHIEF CHEMIST, ADVISES THT HE SAW BLACK AT AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY MEETING IN NINETEEN THIRTYSIX WHEN BLACK WAS TRAVELING WITH HIS MOTHER. ~~REED~~ ADVISES HE CONSIDERED BLACK TO BE DIFFERENT IN HIS VIEWS THAN MOST PEOPLE IN THAT HE WAS A NATURE AND ANIMAL LOVER. ~~REED~~

~~REED~~ CHEMIST AT AMERICAN CYANAMID, STATES THAT TASSO BLACK WAS A CHEMIST THERE, COMING FROM PENN STATE COLLEGE WHERE HE HAD TROUBLE WITH THE AUTHORITIES AND EITHER WAS EXPELLED OR HAD TO LEAVE DUE TO HIS REVELLION AT TAKING ROTC TRAINING. ~~REED~~ STATES THAT BLACK-S FATHER WA LEADING SHAKESPEAREAN SCHOLAR IN THE LATE TWENTIES. HE CONSIDERED BLACK A RESOURCEFUL, DILIGENT AND HARD WORKING CHEMIST WHO THOUGHT FOR HIMSELF AND ALWAYS DESIRED TO KNOWN WHY TESTS WERE BEING PERFORMED IN THE LABORATORY. EXAMINATION OF SUBJECT-S BANKING ACCOUNT AT WEST HUDSON NATIONAL BANK CONTINUING. REVIEW THIS DATE HAS REFLECTED A

COPIES DESTROYED

R 47 NOV 21 1963 DEPOSIT OF A CHECK IN AMOUNT OF SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS

BY CHECK OF FINE ORGANICS, INC., DRAWN ON PUBLIC NATIONAL BANK, NYC,

END PAGE ONE

INDEXED - 83

RECORDED - 83

65-59181-60

55 JUL 12 1961

RECEIVED

b7c

PAGE TWO

IN JANUARY, FORTYFOUR. WITHDRAWAL TO CASH MADE ON SAME DATE. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT BLACK MAY HAVE MADE PAYMENTS FOR OTHER PERSONS IN THAT SEVERAL CHECKS WERE WRITTEN TO FIDELITY UNION TRUST CO., NEWARK, NJ, WHEREAS LATTER BANK HAS NO RECORD OF ANY TRANSACTIONS WITH SUBJECT. THIS FACT FURTHER BORNE OUT BY NEW HAVEN TELETYPE OF THIS DATE CONCERNING CONNECTICUT GENERAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY. TELEPHONE NUMBER HYACINTH EIGHT DASH NINE FIVE TWO THREE LISTED TO MEYER FASS, THREE SIX SEVEN MILLER AVE., BROOKLYN, NY. THIS ADDRESS KNOWN TO BE RESIDENCE OF JACOB FASS, ASSOCIATE OF SUBJECT IN SPRUCE CHEMICAL COMPANY. TELEPHONE NUMBER PRESCOTT NINE DASH ONE SEVEN SIX SEVEN LISTED ZIEGLER SHEET METAL COMPANY, FIVE THREE FIVE LEXINGTON AVENUE, CLIFTON, NJ. INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED RE ASSOCIATION OF ZIEGLER AND BLACK.

MC KEE

A I O PLS

WA NK R 4 WA DCL

NY NK R 4 NYC REOT

NPKL NK R 1 PH MOB

DSC

*cc: Mr. Van Loo*

JUN -8 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASHINGTON 16 NEW YORK 5 NEWARK 2 FROM PHILA 6-8-50 6-53 PM

DIRECTOR AND SACS.....U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP - R. PHYSICAL SURVEILLANCE REFLECTED THAT BLACK VISITED TWO ELECTRICALLY SUPPLY HOUSES IN LATTER PART OF MORNING, MAKING PURCHASES AT BOTH. ALSO VISITED WAREHOUSE OF ARTHUR THOMAS CO., DEALERS IN LABORATORY APPARATUS, FOURTEEN SOUTH ST., LEAVING WITH SMALL PACKAGE. AT ABOUT THREE FORTY PM, ARRIVED AT FRANKLIN INSTITUTE LIBRARY, WHERE HE STAYED UNTIL FIVE PM, LOOKING AT CHEMICAL MAGAZINES, ASKING FOR ONE UNIDENTIFIED BRITISH PATENT WHICH WAS NOT AVAILABLE AND MAKING SOME NOTES IN SMALL NOTEBOOK. DURING TIME BLACK WAS IN LIBRARY, JOHN MANLY, RESEARCH CHEMIST AT PENNA SUGAR CO., AND A REFERENCE FOR HARRY GOLD WHEN LATTER SECURED POSITION AT PHILA GENERAL HOSPITAL, WAS ALSO IN LIBRARY. MANLY ARRIVED AT OPENING OF LIBRARY TWO PM, LEFT AT FOUR TWENTY PM. NO CONTACT OR RECOGNITION BETWEEN THE TWO WAS OBSERVED. EMPLOYEES OF FRANKLIN INSTITUTE LIBRARY STATE THAT ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS IN PAST, MANLY AND BLACK HAD BEEN PRESENT IN THE LIBRARY AT SAME TIME, HOWEVER, MANLY FREQUENTS LIBRARY ON MORE OCCASIONS WHEN BLACK IS NOT PRESENT. EMPLOYEES OF THE LIBRARY HAVE NEVER NOTICED MANLY AND BLACK COMMUNICATE

COPIES DESTROYED  
IN ANY RESPECT.  
R 47 NOV 21 1960

EMPLOYEES STATE THAT MANLY APPEARED RATHER NERVOUS TODAY. PROPERTY AT FOUR NINE ONE SEVEN NORTH HUTCHINSON ST., PHILA, ON WHICH BLACK ISSUED CHECK FOR NINETEEN FORTYSEVEN TAXES, WAS

RECORDED - 83

65-59181-61 6  
917

END PAGE ONE

PAGE TWO

PURCHASED BY [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] *B7C*

RE BLACK-S PURCHASE OF ELECTRICAL AND CHEMICAL EQUIPMENT TODAY, IT IS POINTED OUT THAT BLACK MADE PURCHASE OF ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT JUNE TWO. IT IS BELIEVED POSSIBLE EQUIPMENT PURCHASED TODAY MAY BE FOR USE IN SPRUCE CHEMICAL PLANT AT PATERSON, N. J., AND MAY INDICATE BLACK CONTEMPLATES TRIP TO PATERSON ON SATURDAY, JUNE TEN. NEWARK SHOULD BE PREPARED TO TAKE OVER SURVEILLANCE SATURDAY IN EVENT BLACK GOES THERE.

CORNELIUS

END ALL AAD PLS

NY PH R 5 NYC REOT

NK PH R 2 NK EM

WA PH R 16 WA LEA

*cc: Mr. Van Loan*

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, NEW HAVEN

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS.  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 27, 1950

RE NYTEL to Newark, New Haven and Philadelphia dated 6/23/50.

The records at the AMERICAN CYANAMID RESEARCH LABORATORIES, West Main St., Stamford, Connecticut, indicate that Dr. LUDWIG J. CHRISTMANN, also known as LOUIS, was originally employed by the company on March 1, 1925 as a Research Chemist to work at WARNER'S LABORATORIES in Linden, New Jersey. CHRISTMANN was transferred to the Stamford Laboratories about 1937. He is now the Director of the Basic Nitrogen Division.

Miss JOSEPHINE WHITTAKER, Personnel Department at the AMERICAN CYANAMID LABORATORIES, made available a photograph of Doctor CHRISTMANN, which was taken in the fall of 1946 for a publication prepared by the AMERICAN CYANAMID LABORATORIES in Stamford. Miss WHITTAKER, who has been acquainted with Dr. CHRISTMANN during the past fifteen years has advised that the latter's photograph is a true likeness of the individual and that his appearance has not changed to any degree during the past fifteen years.

It was pointed out by Miss WHITTAKER that the personnel file relating to Dr. CHRISTMANN was retained by the AMERICAN CYANAMID COMPANY'S New York office, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City. Dr. CHRISTMANN's current residence

Miss WHITTAKER advised that to the best of her recollection Dr. CHRISTMANN at no time has ever resided in Connecticut.

The indices of the New Haven office contain no identifiable information relating to Dr. CHRISTMANN with one exception.

The Bureau records may contain information concerning such reference, which is no longer available in the New Haven office.

Enclosed is a photograph of Dr. CHRISTMANN, which is being forwarded to the Philadelphia Division for exhibition to the subject THOMAS L. BLACK. Philadelphia is requested to furnish said photograph to the Bureau after it has

FMH:FCM  
65-1332

cc Newark (65-4074) (Inf.)  
New York (65-15338) (Inf.)  
Philadelphia (65-4332) (SD Registered Mail) (Enclosure)

Bureau - SD

RECORDED - 83

INDEXED - 83

165-5781-62  
JUN 28 1950

56 JUL 20 1950

Letter to the Director

RE: THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESPIONAGE-R

NH 65-1332

6/27/50

served its purpose in Philadelphia requesting the Bureau to make additional copies and forward same to Philadelphia, New Haven and New York.

It is requested that the Bureau return the original photograph, which is being transmitted to Philadelphia, to the New Haven office for return to the AMERICAN CYANAMID CO. after appropriate copies have been made for the interested Bureau divisional offices.

Copies of this letter are being forwarded to New York and Newark for information.

RETURN. PHOTO TO

NEW HAVEN

Done per Bufile  
To New Haven 7-11-50  
EE

DIRECTOR, FBI

June 27, 1950

SAC, NEW HAVEN

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS.  
ESPIONAGE - R

RE NYTEL to Newark, New Haven and Philadelphia dated 6/23/50.

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It was pointed out by Miss WHITTAKER that the personnel file relating to Dr. CHRISTMANN was retained by the AMERICAN CYANAMID COMPANY'S New York office, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City. Dr. CHRISTMANN's current residence [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Miss WHITTAKER advised that to the best of her recollection Dr. CHRISTMANN at no time has ever resided in Connecticut.

The indices of the New Haven office contain no identifiable information relating to Dr. CHRISTMANN with one exception. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The Bureau records may contain information concerning such references, which is no longer available in the New Haven office.

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FIX:FCM  
65-1332

cc Newark (65-4074) (Inf.)

New York (65-15338) (Inf.)

Philadelphia (65-4332) (SO Registered Mail)

(Enclosure)

Bureau - 20

Ask W. H. R.  
C. J. Jones  
JUL 11 1950

Letter to the Director

RE: THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESPIONAGE-R

NH 65-1332

6/27/50

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Copies of this letter are being forwarded to New York and Newark for information.



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 27, 1950

L FROM : SAC, Newark

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R  
-----

There are enclosed herewith for the New York and Philadelphia Offices the following photographs of individuals mentioned in connection with above-captioned case. These photographs are copies of originals obtained from the files of NOPCO Chemical Company, Harrison, New Jersey.

4 photographs of Dr. KARL T. STEIK taken approximately 1935  
2 photographs of ANITA BARON IMMERMAN, date unknown  
2 photographs of ROLAND KAPP, date unknown.

cc New York (8 enclosures)  
Philadelphia (8 enclosures)

LCT:JEL  
NK 65-4074

RECORDED - 83

65-59181-63



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-154

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

June 29, 1950

URGENT

Transmit the following message to:

SAC, BOSTON  
NEWARK  
PHILADELPHIA

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP DASH R. RETEL JULY TWENTY NINE, TWELVE FIFTEEN  
AM FROM PHILA. TO NEWARK AND NY REFLECTING INTERVIEW WITH BLACK ON JUNE  
TWENTY EIGHT LAST. FOR INFO OF BOSTON BLACK ELABORATED ON NAMES AND MATERIAL  
FOUND IN LOCKED METAL BOX OF HIS AT WAREHOUSE IN NEWARK. CONTAINED AMONG  
EFFECTS WAS AN ENTRY QUOTE SEE NICHOLS E. RUTHERFORD UNQUOTE. ACCORDING TO  
BLACK THIS ENTRY MEANT THAT PAUL PETERSEN, A SOVIET CONTACT, HAD INSTRUCTED  
HIM TO CONTACT A MAN NAMED <sup>Nichols</sup> PETERSEN IN EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. OF NICHOLS  
PETERSEN SAID THAT IN THE PAST HE HAD BEEN A VALUABLE SOVIET CONTACT AND HAD  
WORKED WITH OR FOR SOVIETS WHILE A STUDENT AT MASS. INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY.  
PETERSEN HAD LITTLE INFO RE NICHOLS EXCEPT THAT HE WAS A GRADUATE OF MIT IN  
METALLURGY WHOSE HOBBY WAS WORKING WITH MICROSCOPES AND THAT HE LIVED IN EAST  
RUTHERFORD IN NINETEEN THIRTY FIVE AND PROBABLY WORKED IN THE NEWARK AREA.  
RETEL REQUESTED NEWARK TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE IDENTITY, BACKGROUND  
AND ACTIVITIES OF NICHOLS. BOSTON MAKE APPROPRIATE INQUIRY OF MIT FOR SAME  
PURPOSE. BOSTON AND NEWARK WILL THEREAFTER SUTEL TO BUREAU AND PHILA IDENTIFYING  
DATA TO ENABLE SEARCH OF INDICES.

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R 47 NOV 21 1960

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EX-43

JUN 30 1950

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 29 1950

TELETYPE

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

53 JUL 12 1950

SENT VIA

Per

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~  
AIR COURIER

Date: June 28, 1950  
To: Legal Attache  
London, England  
From: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Subject: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

Investigation by the Bureau has established that the above-captioned subject was engaged in furnishing information to Soviet intelligence agents in this country in the early 1940's.

Information has been received that one of Black's contacts was probably identical with one Dr. Gregory Lvovich Rabinovitch, with aliases Rabinowitz, "Rabinovich," "Roberts," and "Dr. Rich."

The files of the Bureau reflect information received to the effect that Rabinovitch was head of the Russian Red Cross in the United States from 1934 until he departed in 1938. A confidential informant of known reliability learned from an official of Amtorg in 1936 or 1937 that Dr. Rabinovitch was the "big boss" of the GPU in the United States at that time. Dr. Rabinovitch was also reportedly affiliated with Amtorg during the period he was in the United States.

The following descriptive data concerning Rabinovitch appears in the Bureau's files:

Age - 43 in 1935; born - Russia; arrived in the United States, October 10, 1934, at New York City, aboard the SS Majestic possessing a Russian passport; height - 5'6 or 7"; build - stocky; hair - graying black; profession - physician; wife - Fannie Sidorovna Rabinovitch; children - Boris - age 13 in 1935, Sonia - age 10 in 1935.

cc: Foreign Service Desk  
cc: 65-57981

ETB:jpa:pp

EX-115

RECORDED - 13

65-59181-67

JUN 30 1950

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

4913 NP/TAP  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_  
1/31/78

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Rabinovitch resided at several addresses, all of which were in Brooklyn, New York, during the time he was in the United States. He departed on December 26, 1938, aboard the Normandy.

The Bureau desires to secure, if possible, a photograph of the above-described Dr. Rabinovitch.

[REDACTED]

B1

This matter should be given your immediate attention so that a reply will be received without delay.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

PHILADELPHIA

FILE NO.

65-1658 1mk

REPORT MADE AT <b>ALBANY, NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>7/1/50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/16, 17, 19, 20/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>FRANK C. WOOD</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, Was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

[REDACTED] Chemical Engineer, stated he first met BLACK about two or three years ago through ERNEST SEGESSEMAN, Lodi, N.J. [REDACTED] with BLACK, and his partner, FASS, at Spruce Chemical Co., Paterson, N.J.

[REDACTED] claims he has seen BLACK only a few times and has had no contacts with him which would reflect his background or associates. [REDACTED] Endicott Johnson Shoe Corp., Endicott, N.Y. says that he met BLACK at Penn State College, State College, Pa. in 1927 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Also that BLACK at college made many remarks about a revolution that was coming and that a struggle between the common people and Capital was coming. Also when BLACK was in New Jersey he attended Communist meeting in New York with ERNEST SEGESSEMAN and that they studied Russian together at Jersey City, N.J. During 1932 or 1933, BLACK was planning to manufacture soap with an individual named GOLDBERG or GOLDSTEIN but apparently this project fell through, according to [REDACTED] BLACK's contacts in New York are unknown to [REDACTED] GOLD unknown to [REDACTED]

- RUC -

G. I. R. - I

Details:

AT WINOOSKI, VERMONT

[REDACTED]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [Signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPIES DESTROYED

147 NOV 21 1960

- 5 - Bureau
- 3 - Philadelphia
- 3 - Newark
- 2 - Albany

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

IN FILE

65-59181-68

RECORDED - 105

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EX - 78

JUL 31 1950

52 JUL 27 1950

1cc to Lindberg  
Room 246 J  
7-23-50  
For Brief  
1cc sent to Division  
at New York  
7-26-50

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] said he first met THOMAS L. BLACK, with JACK FASS, about two, or possibly three years ago, when ERNEST SEGESSEMAN, Lodi, New Jersey introduced them as reliable chemists who were just starting a chemical manufacturing business.

[REDACTED] he placed an order with BLACK and FASS, d.b.a. the Spruce Chemical Company, 5557 Miller Street, Philadelphia, Pa. [REDACTED] said he understood BLACK, FASS, and SEGESSEMAN had all worked for the same chemical company at one time and had in this way been well acquainted for several years (number unknown).

[REDACTED] stated the service accorded him at Spruce Chemical Company was excellent and he has placed every order since with this company.

[REDACTED] advised that eventually BLACK and FASS wished to move their business to a better location which time coincided with the wish on the part of GOTTFRIED ZIEGLER, Paterson, N.J. to improve property he owned at 177 East Railway Avenue in Paterson. [REDACTED] they might find it mutually profitable if ZIEGLER constructed a building on this property of such type BLACK and FASS could rent and use for housing their Spruce Chemical Company operations. [REDACTED] stated such an arrangement was found attractive to all concerned and the move of the Spruce Chemical Co. was completed to April, or thereabouts, 1950. [REDACTED] contemplates moving into this address to set up an office and small laboratory in the future but does not have any idea as to just when such a move may be made.

[REDACTED] stated he has never visited the homes of either BLACK or FASS and has no social contact with either, except for a few lunches in the course of business contacts. [REDACTED] declared he has no idea what contacts BLACK may have, social or otherwise, with the exception of FASS and SEGESSEMAN.



AL 65-1658

[redacted] noted that BLACK has little opportunity to be present at Spruce Chemical Company, where PASS is the sole employee and does all the work, since he has a job in some laboratory (name unknown) in Philadelphia, Pa., where he is employed full time. [redacted] stated that this has been the arrangement for Spruce Chemical Company operation and he understands it will continue until such time as the company may be profitable enough to support both BLACK and PASS. [redacted] said he thinks BLACK comes to the company one day a week, or two weeks. [redacted] stated that he had, therefore, seen PASS more than BLACK but knows nothing of the associates of either. [redacted] stated he understands PASS resides with his parents in Brooklyn, New York and recalls [redacted]

[redacted] stated he regards BLACK and PASS as thoroughly reputable men inasmuch as he has trusted them implicitly with his business. [redacted] and has never had occasion to doubt their complete dependability. [redacted] advised he does not know how Spruce Chemical Company was, and is, financed but assumes BLACK continues to work in a laboratory partly as a means of keeping ready cash for the business. [redacted] stated he has assumed BLACK and PASS are full and equal partners in the company but actually knows nothing of the business arrangement. [redacted]

The following investigation was conducted by SA PATRICK A. MUNLEY.

AT ENDICOTT, NEW YORK

[redacted] who is employed [redacted] at the Endicott Johnson Shoe Corporation, [redacted] advised that he met BLACK at Penn State College, State College, Pennsylvania during 1927. [redacted] and he believes that BLACK did not graduate from college but left in 1929 to work for the American Cyanide Company, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

During the time that BLACK was at college with [redacted] he told [redacted] several times that a revolution was coming and that the struggle between the common people and capital was also coming. He told [redacted] that he wanted [redacted] to be on the right side.

678



AL 65-1658

[REDACTED] said that after he finished college he again met BLACK in New Jersey when BLACK was working for Holbrook Soap Company, Jersey City, New Jersey. Then BLACK went with the National Oil Company at Harrison, New Jersey.

[REDACTED] Since 1937, [REDACTED] has seen BLACK only on several occasions on the street.

[REDACTED] with BLACK and SEGESSEMAN that BLACK and SEGESSEMAN attended Communist meetings at New York City.

[REDACTED] said he attended a social affair in New York with BLACK at which time the group sang "The International". Also that SEGESSEMAN and BLACK studied the Russian language in Jersey City and that BLACK always expressed a desire to go to Russia.

[REDACTED] said that he heard from other employees at National Oil Company that BLACK left his job suddenly in 1940 or 1941. He also believes that SEGESSEMAN dropped his association with BLACK, in going to the Communist meetings at New York.

[REDACTED] said that in 1932 or 1933 BLACK was planning on going into the soap manufacturing business with an individual named GOLDBERG or GOLDSTEIN but that apparently this project fell through. [REDACTED] said he did not know HARRY GOLD.

[REDACTED] related that he did not know any of BLACK's contacts in New York City.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

157D

AL 65-1658

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

[REDACTED] related that BLACK's mother died when he was two years old and that his father was a professor at Bloomsburg State Teachers College, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, where he died in 1931. He said that BLACK always acted, in his opinion, like a person who did not have the care and discipline of a mother. While they were at Penn State College, BLACK poured benzene on the dormitory floor and set fire to it. BLACK also took morphine sulphate and slept for twenty hours. [REDACTED] said that BLACK was disciplined many times and that Dean WAPLOCK was well acquainted with BLACK. BLACK also changed his courses several times while at Penn State, according to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Related that BLACK attended meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Atheism at the Knights of Pythias on 72nd Street, New York City.

[REDACTED] related that BLACK was interested in women in a sexual way but was not interested in marriage, stating that BLACK said that this was an awful world to bring children into. Also that BLACK drank considerably.

b7D

REFERENCE

Newark teletype to Director, Washington Field, New York, Philadelphia, and Albany, dated June 16, 1950.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

PHILADELPHIA

FILE NO.

65-1658 1mk

REPORT MADE AT <b>ALBANY, NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>7/2/50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/16, 17, 19, 20/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>FRANK C. WOOD</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, Was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[REDACTED] Chemical Engineer, stated he first met BLACK about two or three years ago through ERNEST SEGESSEMAN, Lodi, N.J. [REDACTED] with BLACK and his partner, FASS, at Spruce Chemical Co., Paterson, N.J.

[REDACTED] claims he has seen BLACK only a few times and has had no contacts with him which would reflect his background or associates. [REDACTED] Endicott Johnson Shoe Corp., Endicott, N.Y. says that he met BLACK at Penn State College, State College, Pa., in 1927 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Also that BLACK at college made many remarks about a revolution that was coming and that a struggle between the common people and Capital was coming. Also when BLACK was in New Jersey he attended Communist meeting in New York with ERNEST SEGESSEMAN and that they studied Russian together at Jersey City, N.J. During 1932 or 1933, BLACK was planning to manufacture soap with an individual named GOLDBERG or GOLDSTEIN but apparently this project fell through, according to [REDACTED] BLACK's contacts in New York are unknown to [REDACTED] GOLD unknown to [REDACTED]

- R U C -

Details:

AT WINOOSKI, VERMONT

B7D

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES			
[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]			
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3 - Philadelphia		[REDACTED]			
3 - Newark		[REDACTED]			
2 - Albany		[REDACTED]			

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, New York  
 SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was  
 ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: July 3, 1950

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

There are herewith enclosed for the Philadelphia Office one copy of a photo of WILLIAM GRINKE and one photo of MIKHAIL CHALIAPIN.

GRINKE is a suspect for PAUL PETERSON. He was in the United States from 1935 to 1937 in Soviet intelligence work, according to [REDACTED]. He was described as:

Age 38-40 in 1936  
 Height 5'7"  
 Weight 160 lbs.  
 Hair Blond, thick and straight  
 Eyes Reddish, caused by some oriental disease

Philadelphia is requested to exhibit these photos to THOMAS L. BLACK. The photo of WILLIAM GRINKE should be shown to HAROLD as a possibility for PAUL SMITH.

cc: Philadelphia - encls. (2)  
 NY 65-15333

~~APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
 AND FIELD OFFICES.  
 ADVISED BY ROUTING  
 SLIP(S) OF CLASSIFICATION  
 DATE 12/18/81 BY 12/18/81~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classified by 232 [REDACTED] 10/23/85  
 Exempt from GDS, Category 1, 3  
 Date of Declassification Indefinite

RECORDED - 102  
 INDEXED - 102

JUL 5 1950

EX-78

12

FWZ 53 JUL 21 1950  
 65-15338

Outgoing to NY; Phila, WFO  
 in Paul Peterson case  
 7/11/50  
 612

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

PHILADELPHIA

FILE NO. 65-3095

REPORT MADE AT <b>SEATTLE, WASHINGTON</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6/26/50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/20/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>WILLIAM C. TOWER</b>
TITLE <b>CHANGED THOMAS L. BLACK, wa. Tassolessing Black</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

[REDACTED] U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Seattle, Washington, advised he was employed by National Oil Products Company, now known as NOPCO Chemicals Company, Harrison, New Jersey, August 6, 1935, until May 15, 1938; and knew THOMAS L. BLACK as fellow worker during that period. [REDACTED] knows BLACK was very much interested in Communism, at least during 1935 to 1938, as BLACK discussed it a great deal. Suspects BLACK was member of Communist Party; however, has no definite knowledge. BLACK read "Daily Worker" and strongly considered going to Spain to fight in Spanish Civil War. [REDACTED] also has impression that BLACK was expelled from University of Pennsylvania or Pennsylvania State College because of "radical activities." [REDACTED] states BLACK had many friends at NOPCO but he, [REDACTED] met only three or four of BLACK's acquaintances who were not BLACK's fellow workers. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] impression is that one of these was named GOLD/GOLDBERG or GOLDSTEIN. Feels this impression may be result of knowing BLACK was formerly a Communist sympathizer who is now in Philadelphia and the fact that HARRY GOLD was recently arrested in Philadelphia. [REDACTED] also met two brothers, Jewish, who were friends of BLACK. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] does not recall that BLACK ever took any long trips while he knew him, but BLACK went to New York City on many week ends.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED

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- 2 - New York
- 2 - Seattle

JUL 5 1950  
14

RECORDED - 38  
INDEXED - 38



SE 65-3095

On one occasion BLACK and [REDACTED] on which trip BLACK took [REDACTED] to a building which had some connection with the Communist Party, either to purchase a book or show the place to [REDACTED] claims BLACK never attempted to recruit him into C.P.

[REDACTED] claims no knowledge of activities of BLACK since 1938.

- P -

DETAILS: AT SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

The title of this report is being changed to reflect the name TASSOLESSING which [REDACTED] claims is BLACK's true first name. ←

NO. IT IS  
FIRST AND  
MIDDLE

[REDACTED] U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2725 Montlake Boulevard, residence [REDACTED] advised he was employed from August 6, 1935, until May 15, 1938, as a chemist at the National Oil Products Company, now known as NOPCO Chemical Company, at Harrison, New Jersey. He advised that he was acquainted with THOMAS L. BLACK who was also a chemist and later a bacteriologist for that company during this period.

[REDACTED] recalls that to his knowledge BLACK was an only child whose first name was actually TASSOLESSING, a name given him by his father who was a professor. [REDACTED] states that it is his impression that BLACK also had a step-mother and that BLACK's original home is somewhere in Pennsylvania.

BLACK attended some university in Pennsylvania, probably the University of Pennsylvania or Pennsylvania State College. [REDACTED] is under the impression that he learned from BLACK that BLACK had been expelled from the University of Pennsylvania or Pennsylvania State College prior to graduation, because of BLACK's "radical activities."

[REDACTED] described his relationship with BLACK as that of a friend during the period 1935 thru 1938, and stated that BLACK [REDACTED] that BLACK was an individual who made friends easily and who took an interest in aiding other people. [REDACTED] stated that their relationship was on the basis of their common scientific interest and that they had no outside interests in common [REDACTED]

SE 65-3095

[REDACTED] stated that he knew BLACK was interested in Communism between 1935 and 1938 inasmuch as BLACK discussed Communism a great deal. From BLACK's conversation he suspects that BLACK was probably a member of the Communist Party, although he claims to have no definite knowledge of such membership. According to [REDACTED] BLACK never solicited his membership in the Communist Party, but he knows that BLACK regularly read the "Daily Worker" and recalls that at one time BLACK purchased a copy of the "Daily Worker" at a news stand. //

[REDACTED] further recalled that during the period he knew BLACK, BLACK was strongly considering going to Spain to fight for the Loyalist cause in the Spanish Civil War. [REDACTED] stated that he attempted to dissuade BLACK from going to Spain. //

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] recalls that on this trip to New York, BLACK took him to a large building, location not recalled, which [REDACTED] recalls as having some connection with the Communist Party in New York City. [REDACTED] is unable to recall the reason BLACK took him to this building but thinks that BLACK wished to purchase a book or perhaps wished merely to show [REDACTED] the Communist Party headquarters. [REDACTED] described this building as a large dingy building and recalls going down a flight of stairs below grade with BLACK. [REDACTED] cannot recall BLACK seeing any person at this building, and states his recollection in this regard is very dim.

[REDACTED] stated that THOMAS BLACK had many friends at National Oil Products Company, the closest being ERNEST SEGESSEMAN who shared an apartment with BLACK for about a year prior to 1937. SEGESSEMAN was in charge of the main analytical laboratory at National Oil Products Company. [REDACTED] SEGESSEMAN, according to [REDACTED] is now presently in charge of his own chemical laboratory somewhere in New York state.

Another close friend of BLACK was one SALLY PRUDEN who was then librarian for the company and who was a social friend of BLACK's. [REDACTED] believes that SALLY PRUDEN is presently in Newark or Orange, New Jersey, and has since that time been married.

SE 65-3095

Dr. K. L. ~~STEIK~~ who was director of research at NOPCO, was also a friend and associate of BLACK. Dr. STEIK is presently in charge of his own chemical company known as Livon Laboratories, Upper Montclair, New Jersey. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated that none of these individuals, as far as he knew, shared BLACK's interest in Communism, but did know BLACK well not only at work but also after hours.

Concerning BLACK's friends who were not also his fellow workers, [REDACTED] stated that on one occasion [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] BLACK was accompanied by either one or two men. [REDACTED] stated that it is his impression that the name of one of these individuals was GOLD, GOLDBERG or GOLDSTEIN.

[REDACTED] and that his meeting BLACK's friends preceded this event by only a short period. [REDACTED] denied ever having met either of these individuals previously or after this meeting [REDACTED]

When he was asked why it was his impression that the name of one of the individuals was GOLD or a similar name, and why he remembers the name in view of the seemingly casual meeting, [REDACTED] stated that he is not at all sure that this is the name but feels that this impression may be the result of his knowledge that BLACK was a Communist sympathizer, that BLACK is presently in Philadelphia, and the fact that recent publicity indicated that one HARRY GOLD had been arrested in Philadelphia for Soviet intelligence activities. [REDACTED] stated that when he read this in the newspaper, he immediately thought of BLACK and wondered whether or not BLACK was still interested in Communism as he was in 1935 thru 1938.

[REDACTED] was also asked if he thought that after viewing a photograph of HARRY GOLD in the newspaper that this individual could possibly be the same man whom he met with BLACK. [REDACTED] replied that he did not feel that it was the same person and recalls that the individual he met was thinner.

B7D



SE 65-3095

[REDACTED] also advised that thru BLACK he also met two other men, brothers, who were also Jewish, during this period and recalls that one of them was named BEN. He stated that BEN and his brother entered the Service during the War, one in the Army and BEN in the Navy, and that they were both stationed in Seattle, Washington, probably in 1944. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was unable to furnish the identities of these two individuals but advised that his wife who is presently on a vacation trip has their address book which he is sure contains the names and addresses of these individuals. [REDACTED] will both be interviewed again concerning the identity of these individuals as well as identity of the persons met [REDACTED] in Newark, New Jersey.

[REDACTED] Does not recall that BLACK ever took any long trips while he knew him but states that BLACK went to New York City on many week ends. He further stated that he cannot recall ever hearing BLACK mentioning ever traveling to any particular section of the country.

Concerning BLACK's background, [REDACTED] stated he knew very little other than he believes BLACK worked in a textile mill when he was young and also was employed at one time in a soap factory in Jersey City. BLACK also was supposed to have been a photographer's assistant at one time.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] claims that he has no knowledge of any activities of BLACK since 1938, and definitely denied any knowledge that BLACK ever engaged in espionage activities for the Soviet Union.

The files of the Seattle Office reflect that [REDACTED] was interviewed by this office during May 1946 in connection with the case [REDACTED]. These interviews are reported in the reports of SA CHESTER L. JACOBY dated 5/16/46, 6/24/46 and 7/13/46, at Seattle. [REDACTED]

SE 65-3095

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Copies of the above mentioned reports of Agent JACOBY are being furnished the Philadelphia Office for their information.

B7C

- PENDING -

SE 65-3095

LEADS

SEATTLE DIVISION

AT SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Will on the return of [REDACTED] from her vacation, interview her and her husband in an attempt to further identify the individuals whom [REDACTED] in Newark, New Jersey, who were acquaintances of subject. Will also secure the names and addresses of two other individuals, brothers, who were friends of subject. Will also secure address of ERNEST SEGESSEMAN and SALLY PRUDEN. [REDACTED]

Will, when photographs of HARRY GOLD taken about 1938 if available, are secured from Philadelphia Office, show these photographs to [REDACTED] in an attempt to identify individual he met [REDACTED] in Newark.

PHILADELPHIA DIVISION

AT PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Will furnish full background information available to that office concerning THOMAS L. BLACK in order that further interviews with [REDACTED] may be conducted in an intelligent manner.

Will furnish the Seattle Office photographs of HARRY GOLD taken in approximately 1938, if such photograph is available, for exhibition to [REDACTED]

Will also furnish the identities and photographs of others involved with BLACK in this case, for exhibition to [REDACTED] for possible identification.

NEWARK DIVISION

AT UPPER MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY

Will interview Dr. K. T. STEIK, director of Livon Laboratories, who was BLACK's superior at NOPCO, for information concerning BLACK's activities, travel and associates. This lead should be held in abeyance until authorized by the office of origin in this case.

SE 65-3095

REFERENCE: Philadelphia teletype to Seattle dated 6/18/50.



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

**PHILADELPHIA**

FILE NO.

**65-3095**

REPORT MADE AT <b>SEATTLE, WASHINGTON</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6/26/50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/20/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>WILLIAM C. TOWER</b>
TITLE <b>CHANGED THOMAS L. BLACK, wa. Tasselessing Black</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

[REDACTED] U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Seattle, Washington, advised he was employed by National Oil Products Company, now known as NOPCO Chemicals Company, Harrison, New Jersey, August 6, 1935, until May 15, 1938; and knew THOMAS L. BLACK as fellow worker during that period. [REDACTED] shows BLACK was very much interested in Communism, at least during 1935 to 1938, as BLACK discussed it a great deal. Suspects BLACK was member of Communist Party; however, has no definite knowledge. BLACK read "Daily Worker" and strongly considered going to Spain to fight in Spanish Civil War. [REDACTED] also has impression that BLACK was expelled from University of Pennsylvania or Pennsylvania State College because of "radical activities." [REDACTED] states BLACK had many friends at NOPCO but he, [REDACTED] met only three or four of BLACK's acquaintances who were not BLACK's fellow workers.

[REDACTED] impression is that one of these was named GOLD, GOLDBERG or GOLDSTEIN. Feels this impression may be result of knowing BLACK was formerly a Communist sympathizer who is now in Philadelphia and the fact that HARRY GOLD was recently arrested in Philadelphia. [REDACTED] also met two brothers, Jewish, who were friends of BLACK.

[REDACTED] not recall that BLACK ever took any long trips while he knew him, but BLACK went to New York City on many week ends.

*B7D*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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SE 65-3095

On one occasion BLACK and [REDACTED] on which trip BLACK took [REDACTED] to a building which had some connection with the Communist Party, either to purchase a book or show the place to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] claims BLACK never attempted to recruit him into C.P. [REDACTED] claims no knowledge of activities of BLACK since 1938.

- P -

**DETAILS: AT SEATTLE, WASHINGTON**

The title of this report is being changed to reflect the name TASSOLESSINO which [REDACTED] claims is BLACK's true first name.

[REDACTED] U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2725 Montlake Boulevard, residence [REDACTED] advised he was employed from August 6, 1935, until May 15, 1938, as a chemist at the National Oil Products Company, now known as NOPCO Chemical Company, at Harrison, New Jersey. He advised that he was acquainted with THOMAS L. BLACK who was also a chemist and later a bacteriologist for that company during this period.

[REDACTED] recalls that to his knowledge BLACK was an only child whose first name was actually TASSOLESSINO, a name given him by his father who was a professor. [REDACTED] states that it is his impression that BLACK also had a step-mother and that BLACK's original home is somewhere in Pennsylvania.

BLACK attended some university in Pennsylvania, probably the University of Pennsylvania or Pennsylvania State College. [REDACTED] is under the impression that he learned from BLACK that BLACK had been expelled from the University of Pennsylvania or Pennsylvania State College prior to graduation, because of BLACK's "radical activities."

[REDACTED] described his relationship with BLACK as that of a friend during the period 1935 thru 1938, and stated that BLACK [REDACTED] that BLACK was an individual who made friends easily and who took an interest in aiding other people. [REDACTED] stated that their relationship was on the basis of their common scientific interest and that they had no outside interests in common.

SE 65-3095

[REDACTED] stated that he knew BLACK was interested in Communism between 1935 and 1938 inasmuch as BLACK discussed Communism a great deal. From BLACK's conversation he suspects that BLACK was probably a member of the Communist Party, although he claims to have no definite knowledge of such membership. According to [REDACTED] BLACK never solicited his membership in the Communist Party, but he knows that BLACK regularly read the "Daily Worker" and recalls that at one time BLACK purchased a copy of the "Daily Worker" at a news stand.

[REDACTED] further recalled that during the period he knew BLACK, BLACK was strongly considering going to Spain to fight for the Loyalist cause in the Spanish Civil War. [REDACTED] stated that he attempted to dissuade BLACK from going to Spain.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] recalls that on this trip to New York, BLACK took him to a large building, location not recalled, which [REDACTED] recalls as having some connection with the Communist Party in New York City. [REDACTED] is unable to recall the reason BLACK took him to this building but thinks that BLACK wished to purchase a book or perhaps wished merely to show [REDACTED] the Communist Party headquarters. [REDACTED] described this building as a large dingy building and recalls going down a flight of stairs below grade with BLACK. [REDACTED] cannot recall BLACK seeing any person at this building, and states his recollection in this regard is very dim.

[REDACTED] stated that THOMAS BLACK had many friends at National Oil Products Company, the closest being ERNEST SEGESSEMAN who shared an apartment with BLACK for about a year prior to 1937. SEGESSEMAN was in charge of the main analytical laboratory at National Oil Products Company. [REDACTED] SEGESSEMAN, according to [REDACTED] is now presently in charge of his own chemical laboratory somewhere in New York state.

Another close friend of BLACK was one SALLY PRUDEN who was then librarian for the company and who was a social friend of BLACK's. [REDACTED] believes that SALLY PRUDEN is presently in Newark or Orange, New Jersey, and has since that time been married.

SE 65-3095

Dr. K. T. STARK who was director of research at NOPCO, was also a friend and associate of BLACK. Dr. STARK is presently in charge of his own chemical company known as Ligon Laboratories, Upper Montclair, New Jersey. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated that none of these individuals, as far as he knew, shared BLACK's interest in Communism, but did know BLACK well not only at work but also after hours.

Concerning BLACK's friends who were not also his fellow workers, [REDACTED] stated that on one occasion [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] BLACK was accompanied by either one or two men. [REDACTED] stated that it is his impression that the name of one of these individuals was GOLD, GOLDBERG or GOLDSTEIN.

[REDACTED] and that his meeting BLACK's friends preceded this event by only a short period. [REDACTED] denied ever having met either of these individuals previously or after this meeting [REDACTED]

When he was asked why it was his impression that the name of one of the individuals was GOLD or a similar name, and why he remembers the name in view of the seemingly casual meeting, [REDACTED] stated that he is not at all sure that this is the name but feels that this impression may be the result of his knowledge that BLACK was a Communist sympathizer, that BLACK is presently in Philadelphia, and the fact that recent publicity indicated that one HARRY GOLD had been arrested in Philadelphia for Soviet intelligence activities. [REDACTED] stated that when he read this in the newspaper, he immediately thought of BLACK and wondered whether or not BLACK was still interested in Communism as he was in 1935 thru 1938.

[REDACTED] was also asked if he thought that after viewing a photograph of HARRY GOLD in the newspaper that this individual could possibly be the same man whom he met with BLACK. [REDACTED] replied that he did not feel that it was the same person and recalls that the individual he met was thinner.



SE 65-3095

[REDACTED] also advised that thru BLACK he also met two other men, brothers, who were also Jewish, during this period and recalls that one of them was named BEN. He stated that BEN and his brother entered the Service during the War, one in the Army and BEN in the Navy, and that they were both stationed in Seattle, Washington, probably in 1944. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was unable to furnish the identities of these two individuals but advised that his wife who is presently on a vacation trip has their address book which he is sure contains the names and addresses of these individuals. [REDACTED] will both be interviewed again concerning the identity of these individuals as well as identity of the persons met in Newark, New Jersey.

[REDACTED] does not recall that BLACK ever took any long trips while he knew him but states that BLACK went to New York City on many week ends. He further stated that he cannot recall ever hearing BLACK mentioning ever traveling to any particular section of the country.

Concerning BLACK's background, [REDACTED] stated he knew very little other than he believes BLACK worked in a textile mill when he was young and also was employed at one time in a soap factory in Jersey City. BLACK also was supposed to have been a photographer's assistant at one time.

[REDACTED] claims that he has no knowledge of any activities of BLACK since 1938, and definitely denied any knowledge that BLACK ever engaged in espionage activities for the Soviet Union.

The files of the Seattle Office reflect that [REDACTED] was interviewed by this office during May 1946 in connection with the case [REDACTED]. These interviews are reported in the reports of SA CHESTER L. JACOBI dated 5/16/46, 6/24/46 and 7/13/46, at Seattle. [REDACTED]

SE 65-3095

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Copies of the above mentioned reports of Agent JACOBY are being furnished the Philadelphia Office for their information.

b7c

- PENDING -

SE 65-3093

**LEADS**

**SEATTLE DIVISION**

**AT SEATTLE, WASHINGTON**

Will on the return of [REDACTED] from her vacation, interview her and her husband in an attempt to further identify the individuals whom [REDACTED] in Newark, New Jersey, who were acquaintances of subject. Will also secure the names and addresses of two other individuals, brothers, who were friends of subject. Will also secure address of ERNEST SEGESSEMAN and SALLY PRUDEN. [REDACTED]

Will, when photographs of HARRY GOLD taken about 1938 if available, are secured from Philadelphia Office, show these photographs to [REDACTED] in an attempt to identify individual he met [REDACTED] in Newark.

**PHILADELPHIA DIVISION**

**AT PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA**

Will furnish full background information available to that office concerning THOMAS L. BLACK in order that further interviews with [REDACTED] may be conducted in an intelligent manner.

Will furnish the Seattle Office photographs of HARRY GOLD taken in approximately 1938, if such photograph is available, for exhibition to [REDACTED]

Will also furnish the identities and photographs of others involved with BLACK in this case, for exhibition to [REDACTED] for possible identification.

**NEWARK DIVISION**

**AT UPPER MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY**

Will interview Dr. R. T. STRIK, director of Livon Laboratories, who was BLACK's superior at NOPCO, for information concerning BLACK's activities, travel and associates. This lead should be held in abeyance until authorized by the office of origin in this case.

RE 65-3095

REFERENCE: Philadelphia teletype to Seattle dated 6/18/50.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, wa.  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 6/27/50

Enclosed herewith is the report of SA WILLIAM C. TOWER at Seattle dated 6/26/50 in captioned case.

In view of the possibility that HARRY GOLD may have been in contact with the subject, as reflected by the interview with [REDACTED] it is requested that Seattle Office be furnished all pertinent details in this case so that further contemplated interviews with [REDACTED] may be intelligently handled.

It is specifically requested that photographs of GOLD and others connected with BLACK at this time, preferably taken around 1938, be forwarded this office in order that they may be exhibited to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

No derogatory information concerning [REDACTED] appears in the Seattle files, and his demeanor during the interview appeared to be cooperative. It is contemplated that he can be re-interviewed in the very near future, as soon as his wife has returned from a vacation trip. It is noted that she has the family address book in her possession.

It is further requested that the Philadelphia Office advise the Newark Office if it desires that the lead set out in the enclosed report for the Newark Office be covered in this case.

WCT:hv  
65-3095  
ENCLOSURE  
cc: Philadelphia (ENCL)  
Newark (ENCL)

B7C  
B7D

65-59181-20



SAC, PHILADELPHIA

July 31, 1950

DIRECTOR, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

Reference is made to Seattle letter to the Bureau dated June 27, 1950, and Philadelphia letter to the Bureau dated July 10, 1950.

The Philadelphia Office is not being furnished with background information concerning [REDACTED] at this time in view of the fact that there is no indication that the [REDACTED] case is related to the Black case.

If future investigation reveals that the two cases are related Philadelphia will be advised of the full details of the [REDACTED] case.

The Philadelphia Office should furnish Seattle information pertaining to the Black case per lead set out in report of Special Agent William C. Tower, dated June 26, 1950, at Seattle, Washington.

RECORDED - 36

65-59181 - 70

EX-40

cc: Seattle

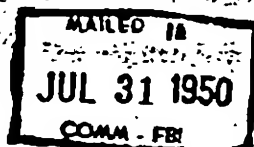
BTC

EPL:jam/ho

NOTED BY INSUR  
C. B. I.  
RECEIVED - 1000H  
JUL 31 15 10 00H

65-59181-70

56 AUG 10 1950



Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Belmont	.....
Mr. Mohr	.....
Tele. Room	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

8.06 P.M. VLF

Miss Gandy  
*[Handwritten signature]*  
*[Handwritten signature]*

*6-15-50  
Tel. to Phil  
Jury T.  
Went U.S.  
and*

65-59181-72

PAGE TWO

EMPLOYED AT PENNA. SUGAR CO., PHILA. AND INTRODUCED BLACK AND GOLD  
TO EACH OTHER ORIGINALLY ABOUT NINETEEN THIRTY THREE. RENVTEL TODAY  
GIVING SUMMARY INSTANT CASE. WALTER PERTUCH MENTIONED THEREIN WILL  
NOT MAKE DESIRABLE WITNESS. ON REINTERVIEW HE ADVISED MOST OF HIS  
INFORMATION IS FUNDAMENTALLY HEARSAY.

CORNELIUS

CORR      TITLE SHUD B      THOMAS I. BLACK  
ENC    XXX    END

2-WA PH R14 WA SMS

NZQSSKL    PH R 8 NYC CJJ

DISC

*rec. Mr. Tom. Lee*



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Date: June 28, 1950

To: Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
2210 E Street, Northwest  
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Colonel Robert A. Schow

From: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

Investigation by this Bureau has established that the above-captioned subject was engaged in furnishing information to Soviet intelligence agents in this country in the early 1940's.

Information has been received that one of Black's contacts was probably identical with one Dr. Gregory Lvovich Rabinovitch, with aliases Rabinovitz, Rabinovich, "Roberts," and "Mr. Rich."

The files of this Bureau reflect information received to the effect that Rabinovitch was head of the Russian Red Cross in the United States from 1934 until he departed in 1938. A confidential informant of known reliability learned from an official of Amtorg in 1936 or 1937 that Dr. Rabinovitch was the "big boss" of the GPU in the United States at that time. Dr. Rabinovitch was also reportedly affiliated with Amtorg during the period he was in the United States.

The following descriptive data concerning Rabinovitch appears in this Bureau's files:

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RECORDED - 24

cc: 65-57981

JUN 29 1950

ETB:jpa:pp

EX-344

65-59181-73

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

47/3 05/1950

Exempt \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED - SERVICES  
ADVISED BY MAILING  
SHIP (S) OF C. R. L. L. L.  
DATE 1-31-78 11/1/78

G. I. P. - J

PK

1/31/78

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Age - 43 in 1935; born - Russia; arrived in the United States, October 10, 1934, at New York City, aboard the SS Majestic possessing a Russian passport; height - 5'6 or 7"; build - stocky; hair - greying black; profession - physician; wife - Fannie Sidorovna Rabinovitch; children - Boris - age 13 in 1935, Sonia - age 10 in 1935.

Rabinovitch resided at several addresses, all of which were in Brooklyn, New York, during the time he was in the United States. He departed on December 26, 1938, aboard the Normandy.

This Bureau desires to secure, if possible, a photograph of the above-described Dr. Rabinovitch.

**B1**

Your prompt attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated inasmuch as the photograph of Rabinovitch will be especially valuable in conducting the current investigation of Thomas L. Black.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-188

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

June 29, 1950

URGENT

Transmit the following message to:

SAC, PHILADELPHIA  
NEW YORK

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS.; FERDINAND PHILLIP HELLER, WAS.; VERA KANE, ESP DASH R.

BUREAU DESIRES TO FURNISH TO DEPARTMENT INFO DEVELOPED TO DATE IN THESE THREE

CASES. PHILA IS ORIGIN IN CASES OF BLACK AND HELLER, NY IN CASE OF KANE.

NY AND PHILA INSTRUCTED TO PREPARE IMMEDIATELY SEPARATE REPORTS RE THE SUBJECTS

FOR SUBMISSION BY BUREAU TO DEPARTMENT FOR OPINION AS TO PROSECUTION. OFFICE

OF ORIGIN IN EACH INVESTIGATION BEING HELD RESPONSIBLE TO INSURE THAT

AUXILIARY OFFICES COVER LEADS PROMPTLY AND WHEN NECESSARY SUBMIT REPORTS

IMMEDIATELY.

HOOVER

ETB:jam

cc - File Ferdinand Phillip Heller  
File Vera Kane

RECORDED - 31

165-5981-74  
JUN 30 1950

EX - 78

COPIES DESTROYED  
R 47 NOV 21 1960

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 29 1950

53 JUL 12 1950

TELETYPE

SENT VIA

Per

# Free Memo.andum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: July 6, 1950

FROM

SAC, PHILADELPHIA

3601

DIRECTOR

THOMAS L. BLACK, was;  
ESPIONAGE-R

Attn. FBI Laboratory.

There is enclosed the following material:

One 15-page typed report entitled, "The Production of I-Sorbose from d-Sorbitol by Acetobacter Spboxydans."

U. S. Patent No. 1,880,381.

U. S. Patent No. 1,908,225.

U. S. Patent No. 2,156,428.

THOMAS L. BLACK, who is presently being interviewed at the Philadelphia Office, says that the 15-page report is one which he wrote and turned over to one of his Soviet superiors as part of his espionage activities. BLACK claims that this report was written only to give the impression of cooperation and that in fact, the process described in it is not a workable one. He claims that Sorbose cannot be produced commercially by Frings' Generator, and that, in fact, the process described is not used by any of the commercial producers of Sorbose or its derivative.

It is requested that this report be examined and the Philadelphia Office be advised whether BLACK's claim is correct.

The Laboratory is requested to return the enclosed material upon completion of the examination.

ENCL.

RWH:MML  
65-4332

Enc. - REG. MAIL - RFR

RECEIVED

RECORDED - 92

COPY AND RETURNED TO LAB  
FOR LAB ACTION AND REPORT

1 AUG 7 1950

JUL 10 1950

RECORDED 7-18-50

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

THOMAS L. BLACK, was;  
Re: ESPIONAGE-R

File # 65-59181-75 ✓  
Lab. # PC-28132 DE

Examination requested by: SAC, Phila. (65-4332)

Date of reference communication: Letter 7-6-50

Date Received: 7-12  
Herewith

Examination requested: Chemical Analyses (General Chemical)

Result of Examination:

Examination by: MAGEE

Specimens submitted for examination

Q5, One 15-page typed report entitled "The Production of I-Sorbose from d-Sorbitol by Acetobacter Suboxydans."

ALSO SUBMITTED: U. S. Patent No. 1,880,381  
U. S. Patent No. 1,908,225  
U. S. Patent No. 2,156,428

According to Schneider at N.B.S., Chas Pfizer & Co., Inc.  
79 Maiden Lane, N.Y.C. is one of largest producers of  
sorbose - also Percy A. Wells, Dr. R. S. Carter  
Reg. Re. Lab., Chestnut Hill Station, Phila. Penn. has  
done considerable work on production of sorbose from  
sorbitol by Acetobacter Suboxydans.



REPORT  
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON D. C.

July 19, 1950

To SAC, Philadelphia

Following is the report of the FBI Laboratory giving the results of the examinations conducted on evidence received in this case.

Thomas L. Black, was.,  
Espionage - R

*John Edgar Hoover*  
John Edgar Hoover, Director

YOUR FILE NO. 65-59181-75  
FBI FILE NO. PC-29132 DS  
LAB. NO.

Examination requested by: Addressee

Reference: Letter 7-6-50

Examination requested: Chemical

Specimen: Q5 One 15-page typed report entitled "The Production of l-Sorbose from d-ribitol by Acetobacter Suboxydans."

Also Submitted: U.S. Patent No. 1,850,331  
U.S. Patent No. 1,903,225  
U.S. Patent No. 2,156,428

RESULTS OF EXAMINATIONS:

Specimen Q5 has been examined with interest in the Laboratory. There are numerous references in the literature that describe methods for the preparation of l-sorbose from d-ribitol by the action of Acetobacter Suboxydans.

Whether or not sorbose can be produced by Prings' Generator is a matter that will have to be discussed with people who have had experience in the production of sorbose by bacterial oxidation. It is suggested that you might wish to instruct an agent of your office to interview Mr. Percy A. Wells, Director, Eastern Regional Research Laboratory, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Mr. Wells and his associates have conducted a considerable amount of work on the preparation of sorbose from ribitol using Acetobacter Suboxydans.

You might wish to refer Mr. Wells to Department of Agriculture publications numbers 0.P. 2221 and 0.P. 2720 which publications are known to deal with the subject in which we are interested.

(Cont' next page)

MAILED 17  
JUL 19 1950  
COMM - FBI

Enclosure - Registered Mail  
71 AUG 7 1950

3603

Regarding your inquiry as to whether or not any of the commercial manufacturers of sorbose utilize the general process described by the subject in specimen Q5, it is suggested that you might wish to get out a lead to the New York Office and request an agent to make the appropriate inquiry at the Chas. Pfizer and Company, Incorporated, 79 Maiden Lane, New York 7, New York. This company is believed to be one of the largest producers of sorbose in the United States.

Specimen Q5 and the three patents are being returned herewith.